Administration Report-
BURMA.
1901-02 & 1906-07

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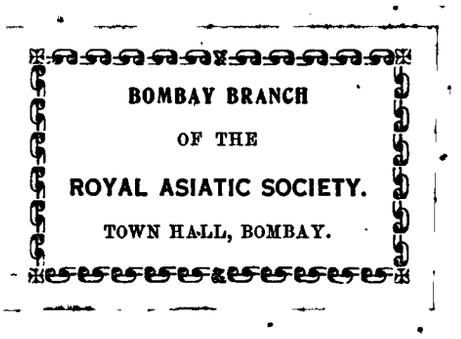

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1901-02 & 1906-07

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1901-02.

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SUMMARY

OF

THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF BURMA FOR THE YEAR 1901-02.

Introductory.

IN the present report are included chapters containing standing information regarding the physical geography of the province, its history, the various tribes which constitute the indigenous population and other subjects of which it is desirable to have a brief permanent record. These chapters have been written with as much brevity as is consistent with accuracy, and it is therefore unnecessary to condense them for this introduction, which is intended merely to summarize the most important facts in the history of the past year. In this report the record of Police, Judicial, Jail and Sanitary administration is for the calendar year 1901; that of the Forest Department is for the forest year ending 30th June 1902; and the record of other matters, except Land Revenue and Administration, is for the official year ending on the 31st March 1902. The record of Land Revenue and Administration is for 15 months ending the 30th June 1902.

Administration.

2. The Hon'ble Sir Frederic Fryer, K.C.S.I., held charge of the administration throughout the year. The number of divisions and districts remained the same as in the previous year. The number of subdivisions was increased by one while the number of townships was diminished by three.

Southern Shan States.

3. The Southern Shan States were tranquil and prosperous during the year of report. The principal event of the year was the holding of a darbar by His Excellency the Viceroy at Mandalay. Frontier relations with the French and Siamese on the Kēngtūng border were satisfactory. There was little crime of a serious character during the year. The *Civil Justice Order*, which was introduced last year, came into operation during the year of report. The order has recently been amended so as to provide for the institution of suits in States in which the cause of action arose. The season was favourable except in Karenni and the Myelat, where the rains were unseasonable and the rice-crop poor. There was a slight decrease in trade with Burma, which was counterbalanced by an increase in the trade with Siam.

Northern Shan States.

4. His Excellency the Viceroy held a darbar at Lashio at the beginning of December, which was attended by all the Northern Shan Chiefs. An important incident in the history of the year was the settlement of frontier cases with the Sub-Prefect of Têngyüeh. A settlement of cases on the Chefang frontier was arranged with the Chefang *Sawbwa*. The peace of the Northern Shan States was undisturbed throughout the year. The State of Hsipaw was prosperous during the year. The government of Hsipaw was not satisfactory owing to the illnesses of the *Sawbwa* and of Saw Hke and to other causes. The sub-States were well governed. In Tawngpeng the *Sawbwa* was detected in an attempt to raise money by interference with freedom of trade. The *Sawbwa* of North Hsenwi failed to

arrest the offenders in a serious dacoity which took place in his State. The other States of the Northern charge were prosperous and call for no special remark. The Kachin tracts were undisturbed during the year. Throughout the rest of the States there was little crime. The season was favourable. Much good work in road and bridge making was done in Hsipaw and in North and South Hsenwi. There was a considerable increase in trade, due in great measure to the opening of the railway.

5. Möngmit continued to be administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines district. The State was generally prosperous. The Kachin tracts of the State were satisfactorily administered.

Chin Hills.

6. The record of the Chin Hills proper during the year was peaceful and progressive. The village of Sagyillain was punished for the exaction of unauthorised dues from households which were claimed as slaves. With the exception of a raid committed by the Losow villagers, feuds were submitted to the decision of the Superintendent and his Assistants. There was a marked increase in the number of civil suits filed by Chins. Visits were exchanged between officers of the Chin and Lushai Hills, and the Falam-Aijal road was completed. The co-operation of the Chiefs in road-making was readily secured, and the passage of Lushai traders through the Hills to Burma was undisturbed. The blockade which was ordered against the Peya Chins as a punishment for cattle-thefts committed in administered territory, while securing the peace of the frontier during the year, failed in its object owing to the ability of the Chins to obtain their salt from Manipur territory, where no effective blockade appears to have been established.

Arakan Hill tracts.

7. The record of the Arakan Hill Tracts during the year was uneventful.

Pakokku Chin Hills.

8. The removal of the headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent, Pakôkku Chin Hills, to Mount Victoria, the substitution of Ghurkas for plainsmen in the garrison, and the increase of the Chin Police were the chief events of the year in these Hills.

Kachin Hills.

9. The year was unusually eventful on the North-East Frontier. The Manai settlement of the border cases of past years, the unrest on the border occasioned by the Yawyin rising, and the development of our frontier defences furnished ample employment for officers in the Bhamo and Myitkyina districts. The annual tours of officers were mainly devoted to the collection of *thathameda,* the settlement of small cases, and the development of frontier communications. Violent crimes showed a satisfactory decrease. Some assistance was given by the Chinese authorities in the arrest of offenders for crimes committed in the Bhamo district. *Thathameda* was collected with reasonable promptitude. A station of the Chinese Imperial Customs was opened at Têngyüeh with a European officer in charge, and the tolls and taxes hitherto levied by the Chinese on the trade between Bhamo and Tengyüeh were regularized and reduced.

Condition of the people.

10. By far the greater portion of the population of Burma is dependent, directly or otherwise, on agriculture for means of livelihood. Agricultural conditions have been distinctly favourable throughout Lower Burma in recent years, and have probably been somewhat better than normal in Upper Burma. A general growth can be traced in consequence in the wealth of the country and an improvement in the ordinary standard of living of the people. Wages are higher, the cultivator employs more hired labour, indulges in new luxuries, and raises loans without difficulty and frequently without regard to his position and means of repayment.

Realization of the revenue.

11. A considerably larger land revenue than in 1901-02 was realized without difficulty during the year under review. With a favourable season and good harvests in Lower Burma the people were well able to pay both the land revenue and capitation tax, and in Upper Burma the elastic system on which the land revenue and *thathameda* are assessed and the large reductions made in the demand on the partial or total failure of crops afforded the necessary relief and permitted of prompt collection of the reduced assessment. The number of coercive processes issued by the revenue courts for the recovery of arrears was somewhat larger than in the previous year, but the revenue was paid in as a rule immediately on the issue of the notice of demand or warrant of arrest or attachment, and the increased figures indicate no real pressure in taxation.

Surveys.

12. Satisfactory progress was made by the Survey of India during the year in the extension of cadastral survey within the cultivated areas in Kyaukpyu and Sandoway districts, Lower Burma, and the Lower Chindwin and Pakôkku districts, Upper Burma. Small parties were also employed in the survey of new cultivation which had grown too rapidly for the regular district Supplementary Survey staff. In a few more years practically the whole of the cultivated area in Burma proper will have been cadastrally surveyed.

Settlements.

13. The original settlement of recently cultivated portions of Pegu and Henzada and of the Lower Burma half of Thayetmyo district was carried out during the year and revision settlements were completed in three districts. Two large parties were engaged in the settlement of the Magwe and Shwebo districts, and summary settlements by the district officers were carried out in two districts of Upper Burma, which have been cadastrally surveyed but not regularly settled. The revision settlements in Lower Burma have led as anticipated to considerable increases in the rates of assessment.

Land Records.

14. With the inclusion of the Toungoo district during the year, practically the whole of the cultivated portion of Lower Burma is now under Supplementary Survey. In Upper Burma the operations of the Land Records staff are being steadily extended as settlements are completed. Additions have been made to the staff to allow for the heavier work, but owing to the larger cultivated area and the favourable season in Lower Burma, the cost per acre of area occupied and the percentage of cost on the revenue assessed were somewhat less on the whole than in the previous year.

Transfers of land.

15. There was a considerable increase during the year in the number of sales and mortgages of land, more particularly in the rich deltaic districts. With the favourable seasons and good prices of recent years, agricultural land has become a more marketable commodity and has risen in price in consequence. In Upper Burma statistics have hitherto been recorded in a few districts only. In Mandalay the assessment of non-State land is reported to be bringing holdings more into the hands of actual cultivators.

Waste land.

16. Large extensions of cultivation into available waste areas were made during the year in Lower Burma, and a considerable number of grants under the revenue rules were given out to applicants who desired to obtain something more than a squatter's title. Wide tracts of culturable waste still await development though in Thôngwa district, where cultivation has spread with marked rapidity in recent years, the waste area is said to be becoming restricted. A certain number

of leases of State land were given out in Upper Burma, and a few revenue-free grants, none of much importance, were made for religious, public and educational purposes in the province.

Tenancies. 17. The Land Records statistics show an increase of between 8 and 9 per cent. in the area sub-let to tenants in Lower Burma when compared with the figures of the previous year, and there has been, at the same time, a slight tendency to increase in the rent rates. The majority of the new tenants are either Upper Burmans or men from India who have engaged themselves as tenants until they can earn sufficient either to purchase a holding or clear a piece of waste land. In the few districts in Upper Burma in which statistics have been recorded for two or more years the figures show no great variations.

Legislation. 18. Four Acts of the Legislative Council became law during 1901, namely, Act I [The (Lower) Burma Land and Revenue Act Amendment Act, 1901], Act II [The Burma Military Police Act Amendment Act, 1901], Act III [The Burma Towns Law Amendment Act, 1901], and Act IV [The Lower Burma Courts Act Amendment Act, 1901]. Towards the close of the year four Bills were introduced into the Council, namely,—

I.—The Burma Village Law Amendment Bill;
II.—The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Bill;
III.—The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill; and
IV.—The Burma Forest Bill.

These have now become law as Burma Acts I, II, III and IV of 1902 respectively.

The provisions of sections 223 and 224 of the Civil Procedure Code (Act XIV of 1882), and subject to certain modifications, the Burma Municipal Act, 1898 (Burma Act III of 1898), were extended to the Shan States during the year.

District Police. 19. The Police had, on the whole, to deal with a smaller body of crime than in 1900, and were less successful in dealing with it. The conduct of the force, both Civil and Military Police, was good. The constitution of the force remained practically the same as in 1900. There was a satisfactory decrease in the number of crimes of all classes excepting house-breaking and lurking house-trespass. There was a slight decrease in the number of cases of cattle-maiming. Ordinary theft cases were much the same as in the previous year, the percentage of convictions being slightly less. Cattle-thefts scarcely decreased in number, while the ratios of recoveries and of convictions remained much the same. Detection was slightly worse than in 1900. Violent crime increased slightly. The increase was confined almost entirely to murders, attempts at murder and house-breaking. Dacoities and robberies diminished. The working of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code showed a distinct falling off. Surveillance of released convicts was satisfactorily performed, and the working of the beat-patrol system was good. The finger impression system was extended and proved of considerable value.

Railway Police. 20. The working of the Railway Police continued to be satisfactory. A considerable number of offences under the excise and opium laws were detected. Thefts decreased and the ratio of convictions was higher than in 1900. The status of the officer in charge of the Railway Police was raised during the year from Assistant Superintendent to District Superintendent of Police.

21. The Military Police force performed efficiently the duties imposed on it. Owing to the large number of unhealthy frontier posts which the force now garrisons, the health of the men suffered considerably. A small expedition was despatched in January to punish the village of Khrum in the unadministered tract adjoining the Pakôkku Chin Hills. **Military Police.**

22. The conduct of the Rangoon Town Police force was good. The number of recruits was slightly lower than in the previous year. There was a slight increase of serious crime, due to a greater number of offences against property. Offences against the person were less numerous than in the previous year. Detection was not so good as in 1900. Firearms were not used in any case during the year. The conduct of beat-patrols was good, and the relations of the police with the headmen were harmonious and productive of good results. **Rangoon Town Police.**

23. There was an increase in the number of village headmen, following on the growth of population and the formation of new villages. The conduct of village headmen was generally good, and they afforded valuable assistance to Government in the collection of revenue and the prevention and detection of crime. **Village Police.**

24. The gross expenditure of the Police Supply and Clothing Department for the year was Rs. 9,70,113 as compared with Rs. 8,56,558 in the previous year. The net expenditure was Rs. 4,18,754, or Rs. 45,651 more than in the previous year. The increase in expenditure was due to a larger number of men rationed during the year under report, to a rise in the price of ghee and to a rise in the price of rice purchased locally by the Commandant, Chin Hills Battalion. The monthly average number of men supplied with rations on payment was 8,523, or 16 more than in the previous year. The cost of free rationing the Chin Hills Battalion amounted Rs. 1,92,081. This year a new system was introduced, by which rations for the Chin Hills Battalion were delivered by the contractor at Kalewa, and the experiment has proved a success. The cost of carriage of rations for all Battalions rose from Rs. 1,77,938 to Rs. 1,91,609, being an increase of Rs. 13,671. This increase was due to the greater quantity of rations transported. The value of rations lost or damaged was Rs. 6,495, being ·7 per cent. of the total value as compared with 2·45 per cent. in the previous year. Most of the atta required by this department was, as in former years, ground in jails. **Police Supply and Clothing.**

25. There was a decrease in the number of cases instituted during the year, which is accounted for in Lower Burma by a falling off under the head of offences under the Police Act and in Upper Burma by the compounding of Municipal cases in Mandalay. There was a noticeable increase in the number of offences affecting the human body. The question of providing means for dealing more effectively with offences in which clasp-knives are used was under consideration. The percentage of true to reported offences fell slightly in Lower Burma and rose slightly in the Upper Province. The percentage of convictions in Lower Burma was lower than in the preceding year. This was also the case in Upper Burma. Greater care appears to be necessary in granting sanction to the initiation of proceedings under the preventive sections. The number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma and the number of persons dealt with were greater than in 1900. In Upper Burma also Sessions Judges disposed of more cases than in 1900. The percentage of convictions fell in both sections of the province. The average duration of Sessions trials rose in Lower Burma and fell **Criminal Justice.**

in Upper Burma. The total number of appeals rose slightly in both Upper and Lower Burma. The total number of persons punished in Magisterial Courts was less in Lower Burma than in 1900, but increased in Upper Burma. Whippings decreased in number in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the proportion of cases in which whipping was inflicted in lieu of other punishments fell, while the proportion in which it was inflicted in addition to other punishments rose slightly. The amount of fines imposed rose considerably in both Upper and Lower Burma. The amount paid as compensation also increased. The number of cases which came before District Magistrates in revision decreased in both Upper and Lower Burma. There was less interference in revision than in the previous year. The number of cases called for by Sessions Judges increased. There was very little interference in Sessions Courts in Upper Burma.

Prisons.

26. The total number of admissions to jail during 1901 was greater than in the preceding year, but the daily average number of all classes, the number remaining at the close of the year and the number of convicts confined were lower than in any year since 1897. The percentage of reconvictions amongst adults was in excess of that in 1900 and there was an equivalent increase in the number of sentences of imprisonment for more than one year. All but thirty of the habitual criminals were identified before trial and of these thirty no fewer than nineteen were identified after trial in the Moulmein Jail. The number of persons committed to jail under the preventive sections showed a decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year. More attention was paid by Magistrates to the provisions of section 73 of the Indian Penal Code. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement in the year was in fact the largest since 1897. Only one escape took place during the year at Myanaung. The fugitive was recaptured after five days. At the close of the year there were still at large twelve prisoners who had escaped in previous years. Fewer offences were dealt with by Jail Superintendents and more by Criminal Courts than in the preceding year. The percentage of corporal to total punishments and the percentage of major punishments to average population were greater than in the previous three years. There is no reason to suppose that there is any tendency to undue harshness in the matter of punishments. There was an increase in expenditure due in large measure to the opening of a new jail at Myaungmya. The average cost per prisoner again slightly increased. The cash earnings of convicts sentenced to rigorous imprisonment rose: those at the Rangoon Central Jail were more than doubled. Gardening operations continued to give excellent results. Owing to the opening of the Myaungmya Jail and to remeasuring and reclassification the total jail accommodation of the Province increased to the extent of 699 for males and 23 for females. There was very little overcrowding. In spite of an epidemic of cholera in Insein Jail the total number of deaths for the year was the lowest on record. There was a regrettable falling off in the number of inspections of jails made by official visitors. Efforts were made to give effect to the special orders of the Government of India relating to the deportation of convicts to Port Blair. Deportation is still proceeding in pursuance of these instructions.

Civil Justice.

27. The number of suits instituted during the year decreased in Lower Burma, but increased in Upper Burma as compared with the figures of 1900. The

total value of suits also fell in Lower Burma but rose in the Upper Province. The average duration of contested cases rose in both Upper and Lower Burma. In uncontested cases it rose in Lower Burma, but was the same as in 1900 in the Upper Province. Applications for execution of decrees were in excess of the figures for the previous year in both sections of the province. In Lower Burma they were somewhat less successful than in the previous year. In Upper Burma the percentage of complete success was larger than in the preceding year and of partial success the same as in 1900. The number of regular appeals in the Province rose slightly. The percentage of confirmations increased in Lower Burma, but decreased in Upper Burma. The number of processes issued in Lower Burma and the receipts from process fees fell. In Upper Burma the number issued and the receipts from fees rose. The number of Court inspections in Lower Burma was less than in 1900. In Upper Burma Divisional and District Judges inspected more Courts than in the preceding year. Attention was paid to the condition of libraries in district and other offices in Lower Burma. The libraries at the headquarters in Upper Burma were generally found to be supplied with all necessary books and pamphlets. Orders have recently been issued by the Government of India which will meet the desire for a more liberal distribution of text-books and commentaries to District Courts. There appears to be room for improvement in the accommodation provided for Courts in Lower Burma. Except at a few outlying stations suitable court-houses now exist throughout Upper Burma. Schemes for the constitution of a separate Superior Judicial Service and for the formation of a Subordinate Judicial Service in Lower Burma are now before the Government of India.

Registration.

28. No change was made during the year in the law relating to the registration of deeds, but in the Lower Burma rules important modifications were effected in the system of indexing immoveable property and in the obligation to attach a certified extract of the survey map to every document presented for registration affecting land in areas under cadastral survey. A new sub-registration office was opened at Thôngwa in the Hanthawaddy district. The number of documents registered and the receipts from fees increased in Lower Burma. The improved figures of the previous year in Upper Burma, which were due to special causes, were not maintained, but the returns show a steady growth. The average value of documents registered fell in Lower Burma and rose in Upper Burma. There was a slight increase in the total expenditure. The only expenditure debited against the department consists of the salaries and fees paid to clerks and the cost of furniture.

Municipal Administration.

29. The number of municipalities in the province remained unchanged. Alterations of boundaries took place at Rangoon, Kyauksè, Pakôkku, Pyinmana and Thayetmyo. The incidence of taxation in Rangoon increased slightly. Ordinary expenditure increased by nearly four lakhs, while receipts diminished by over a lakh and-a-half. Income from taxation and other ordinary sources, however, continued to expand; and the 9 per cent. Municipal-tax has been reduced to 8 per cent. The loans outstanding at the close of the year amounted to 57½ lakhs. The Thamaing water-supply project has been finally abandoned in favour of the Hlawga scheme. Sanction has been accorded to the extension of the period for the repayment of loans; and legislation in connection with the institution of a Provident Fund has

been approved. Progress has been made with the scheme for the introduction of electricity; and the Hospitals have now been handed over to Government. There was an increase of nearly a lakh of rupees in the aggregate income of mofussil Municipalties exclusive of debt accounts and a smaller advance in ordinary expenditure. The closing balances in some cases were excessive. Fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses increased by more than half a lakh and again formed the principal item in the receipts. If the special Government grant to Mandalay in connection with the Thayetmaw embankment is left out of consideration, there was a decrease in the total amount of grants and contributions from all sources. The Government of India have signified their approval under certain conditions of a proposal to give lump-sum grants from provincial revenues towards large and important municipal schemes which the Municipalities are unable to carry out without assistance. There was an increase in expenditure under all the important heads. Projects for improving the existing water-supplies are engaging the attention of a number of Committees. Mandalay spent more than a lakh on roads in excess of the figure for the previous year. The balance of Government loans outstanding at the end of the year was only about half of the figure at the close of 1900-01. Magwe and Minbu were added to the list of notified areas during the year.

Military.

30. The total strength of the troops in Burma at the beginning of the year was 10,629, of whom 3,352 were Europeans and 7,277 were Natives; the number at the close of the year being 10,311, of whom 3,158 were Europeans and 7,153 were Natives.

Volunteering

There was no change in the constitution of the volunteer forces during the year under review. The aggregate enrolled strength of the combined force on the 31st March 1902 was 2,460 active and 147 reservists, 312 cadets. The total number of efficients was 2,321; capitation tax earned was Rs. 83,163.

Agriculture.

31. The year's figures show a further large increase in the area under rice cultivation in Lower Burma. It is of interest to note that the land under this crop measures more by one-half than it did ten years ago, and that large tracts of waste land suitable for cultivation still await development. In Upper Burma the season was unfavourable, the area cultivated was considerably less than in the previous year, and lands which in a good year would have been irrigated and have produced rice were planted with "dry" crops. The health of agricultural stock was good on the whole and the number increased in most districts. There was less demand for rice from India, and the price of paddy at harvest time was below the high figures which have ruled in recent years. The market value of other produce fell in sympathy in some cases.

Veterinary.

32. Certain additions were made to the strength of the Veterinary Department during the year so as to permit it to cope more thoroughly with the various forms of cattle disease which are always prevalent in a more or less virulent type in some part of the Province. A satisfactory beginning has been made in inoculation of cattle against rinderpest. Little was done towards the improvement of pony-breeding.

Weather and Crops.

33. The continuance of the monsoon into November interfered with the ripening of the paddy crop in parts of Lower Burma, but the yield was generally good. In Upper Burma, more rain was needed, many of the small irrigation works failed

wholly or partially, and upland crops were poor, particularly in Mandalay district and in the Sagaing and Meiktila Divisions.

Horticulture.

34. The distribution of seeds and of flowering and other plants was continued by the Agri-Horticultural Society in Rangoon, and English fruits and vegetables were successfully grown in experimental gardens in the hills in Upper Burma and the Shan States. The present lack of means of transport restricts the market for the produce.

Forest.

35. Fair progress was made during the year in the reservation of forest areas, and in the detailed survey of reserves. A Working Plans Party was employed in each of the Pegu, Tenasserim and Southern Circles. Fire protection was carried out over a larger area than in 1900-01 and was generally more successful than in that year. Fewer cases of incendiarism and of minor forest offences were detected during the year. The output of teak and other timber both by Government and private agency was less than in the previous year, owing chiefly to expiry of contracts and a poor floating season. The cutch revenue also declined and the total decrease in revenue amounted to some 17⅓ lakhs. The price of teak timber improved considerably towards the close of the year.

Mines and quarries.

36. The year was marked by a large increase in the output of oil, principally from the Burma Oil Company's workings in the Yenangyaung and Yenangyat oil-fields. The development of both fields is now being rapidly pushed forward. Washing for rubies was carried out on a larger scale than in 1900-01 in the Ruby Mines district, better results were obtained and the Ruby Mines Company had a successful year.

There was an improvement in the output from the gold-mine in Katha district, but the future prospects of the mine are not encouraging. A new departure is being made in the commencement of dredging operations for gold in the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy river. The result is not yet known.

Coal in somewhat larger quantities was produced by the Company working in Shwebo district. The coal is of poor quality and does not readily find a market. Tin, jade, amber, steatite and mica are other minerals which were obtained to a small extent in the province during the year.

Commercial Marine.

37. The number of vessels engaged in the sea-borne trade decreased slightly, but the aggregate tonnage continued to increase. There has been of recent years a noticeable increase in the size and tonnage of steamers visiting the port of Rangoon. There was a falling off of about 66 lakhs in the aggregate value of foreign imports due to a considerable decline in the imports of cotton, silk and woollen piece-goods and cotton twist and yarn. Exports, however, showed an increase in value owing to increases in raw cotton, rice and paddy. There was a considerable decrease in the exports of cutch, hides and teak.

The value of the coasting trade declined by 297 lakhs principally in imports from Madras, Indian ports not British and Provincial ports.

The most serious casualties during the year were those connected with the burning of the British India mail steamer *Karagola* at Akyab and the P.S. *Ava* at Rangoon, both being due to the ignition of oil.

The re-survey of the Rangoon river was completed. Useful work was done by the River Survey staff at Moulmein.

Receipts from light dues continued to advance.

The income of the Rangoon Port Trust was four-fifths of a lakh in advance of the previous year's income. The improvement was common to all heads of revenue and was due to the general expansion of trade. The closing balance continued to swell. More than a lakh and three quarters was spent on new works. A large scheme for the improvement and extension of the port, estimated to cost 92½ lakhs, has been generally approved by Government. A complicated dispute about land with the Railway Company, which threatened to interfere with the progress of this scheme, has been satisfactorily settled. Important additions have been made to the administrative staff of the Port Trust. The Port Health Department cost a lakh and a third, Government contributing Rs. 88,181, or two-thirds of the cost of plague preventive measures.

The amount disbursed to the Rangoon Pilots rose to over a lakh and a half. The closing balance of the Pilot Fund amounted to Rs. 1,32,287.

The total income (excluding debt accounts) of the six minor port funds advanced by about a third of a lakh. The aggregate expenditure also increased by more than a lakh.

Sea-borne Trade.

38. The value of both imports and exports, though considerably above the average of preceding years, was below the high figures of 1900-01. There was considerable decline in the import of goods of European manufacture, which is explained by large shipments in excess of the current demand in the previous year. The exports made to Europe show a small improvement, but there was a falling off, due to less demand from the famine area, in shipments of rice and others food-grains to India.

Inland Trade.

39. There was a very satisfactory development of the inland trade through the Bhamo district with Western China during the year. Improvements were made in opening up trade routes, and both exports and imports increased largely. Between Burma proper and the Shan States the trade declined on the whole and the traffic between Lower Burma and Siam continued unimportant.

Public Works.

40. The total Public Works expenditure for the year was Rs. 1,03,09,051, excluding Establishment, Tools and Plant, Barrack Department, and Suspense. This was distributed as follows:—

Nature of work.	Original works.	Repairs
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial Military Works	1,76,960	2,97,811
Imperial Major Irrigation Works	10,34,652	...
Provincial Major Works and Navigation	9,20,420	5,26,928
Provincial Civil Buildings	23,61,737	5,49,501
Provincial Communications	17,29,402	17,98,992
Provincial Miscellaneous Public Improvements	2,47,175	66,296
Incorporated Local Minor Works and Navigation	1,799	3,425
Incorporated Local Civil Buildings	20,891	2,301
Incorporated Local Communications	1,40,257	1,84,936
Incorporated Local Miscellaneous Public Improvements ...	95,750	41,613
Contributions	94,619	14,586
Total ...	68,21,662	34,87,389

The total cost of establishment, excluding the Barrack Department, was Rs. 18,30,787 or 17·75 per cent. on the total expenditure as against 15·60 per cent. in the previous year and 18·19 per cent. in the year before that.

41. At Mandalay mess-houses for two Native Infantry regiments, begun in the past year, were completed and handed over for occupation. Quarters for a British officer of Burma Sappers and Miners and for the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of the staff were also completed. The drainage of Port Dufferin was about two-thirds completed. At Maymyo the preparation of a site for British Infantry lines was begun. The water-supply for Meiktila Cantonment was completed and has proved satisfactory. Experimental borings were made in Shwebo Cantonment with a view to obtaining a supply of pure water for the troops at that station. **Military Works.** **Civil Buildings.**

Forest.—Quarters were completed for the Conservators of Forests, Northern and Southern Circles, at Maymyo and for the Deputy Conservator of Forests at Mogôk.

Post Offices.—A combined post and telegraph office was completed in the Pazundaung suburb of Rangoon. At Maymyo a new post office was nearly completed.

Telegraph.—A telegraph office was constructed at Maymyo. At Myitkyina a telegraph office was nearly completed.

Administration.—Quarters were provided for the Commissioner, Arakan Division, at Akyab. Record-rooms were completed at Mergui, Myingyan, Shwebo, Sagaing, Thayetmyo, Magwe and Pakôkku. Treasure-vaults were completed at 12 stations.

Educational.—In the Rangoon College compound a separate building for educational and hostel purposes of the college proper was practically completed. Certain additions and alterations to the schools for sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi were in progress.

Ecclesiastical.—The work on the Memorial Church in Fort Dufferin according to Mr. Street's modified design was resumed, but later in the year was stopped pending the preparation of a modified design.

Law and Justice.—The court accommodation at Bassein was extended; at Moulmein the provision of additional accommodation in the district court-house was in progress. Court accommodation was provided at Buthidaung, Kamaing, Sadon, Myingyan and Pakôkku.

Jails.—Quarters for the Superintendent of the Central Jail at Mandalay were completed. Necessary additions and alterations were made to the Rangoon, Insein, Thayetmyo, Toungoo, Magwe, Myingyan, Pagan and Pakkôku Jails. The water-supplies for the Bassein and Myaungmya Jails were completed. The new jail at Mergui was well forward.

Police.—Quarters were completed or begun for Civil and Military Police officers where required. Additional barracks, for both Civil and Military Police, were completed or well in hand at 11 stations for the former and at 16 stations for the latter. On the Myitkyina-Chinese frontier, buildings for temporary occupation as frontier outposts were in progress.

Medical.—Quarters were completed for the Civil Surgeons at Sandoway and Pakkôku. Civil hospitals were completed at Paungbyin and Pauk, and practically completed at Minhla and Amherst.

Miscellaneous.—At Maymyo quarters for three Superintending Engineers and Public Works Department clerks were completed. A fire-proof record-room for the three Superintending Engineers' offices was also completed. Additional

accommodation was provided for the Government Printing Press, Rangoon, by adding another storey to the building. At Kôkkaing, Rangoon, a magnetic observatory was completed.

Communications. The total length of metalled and unmetalled roads in the province at the end of the year was 1,622 and 7,428 miles respectively. In addition to metalling, widening and improving roads generally, renewal of bridges and provision of inspection bungalows where necessary, the following works were undertaken during the year.

(*a*) *Metalled roads.*—A cart-road from Kywebwe Railway station to the Sittang river (Toungoo district) was approaching completion. The road from Penwegôn Railway station to Ananbaw on the Sittang river (Pegu district) was in progress. The Longlon-Zalut road (Tavoy district) and the road from the Maliwun village to the mines of the Jellabu Mining and Trading Company (Mergui district) were practically completed. The Hlegu-Paunggyi road (Pegu district) was in progress. Additional necessary station roads were completed at Maymyo (Northern Shan States). The Twingôn-Yenangyaung-Thittabwe road (Magwe district) was in progress. The extension to Kyauk-o of the road from Minbu (Minbu district) was completed. A feeder-road from the Myingyan-Meiktila road to Yegyo Railway station (Meiktila district) was in progress. A new road from the Civil lines to the Military Police lines at Shwebo (Shwebo district) was practically completed.

(*b*) *Unmettalled Roads.*—The first section of the Chinese Frontier road from Bhamo to Kalôngkha was finished to formation level; on the second section but little progress was made. The first section of the branch road to connect the above road with the Military Police outpost at Nampaung and also the earthwork of the second section were nearly completed. Roads connecting the Military Police outposts in the Bhamo district, south of the Taping river, were completed. In connection with the north-east frontier defence scheme re-alignment of portions of roads from Waingmaw base to outposts at Sadôn and Loignu were undertaken, and that to Sadôn completed and to Loignu very nearly so. The Chin Hills section of the road from Falam to Fort Aijal in the Lushai hills was about two-thirds completed.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements. *Markets.*—Bazaars were completed at Hmawbi, Hlawga, Kyaikpyi, Kyawzan and Ôkpo; as also at Deiku and Peinzlôk Railway towns.

Water-supply.—Materials were collected for improving the water-supply of Thandaung. The scheme for water-supply to the station of Maymyo progressed and nearly all the pipes for distributing the water were received and laid.

Light-houses.—The new light for the light-house at Alguada and a screw-piled beacon on Oyster Reef were completed. Preliminary local works in connection with the proposed Beacon Island light-house progressed favourably.

Railways. 42. The gross earnings of Railways for the official year were Rs. 1,21,73,931, an increase of Rs. 71,233 over the previous year. The increase in net earnings was Rs. 55,259. The mileage open to traffic increased from 1,124 miles to 1,177·7 miles due to opening of the Lashio branch from Nawnghkio to Hsipaw.

Work was continued on the extension to Lashio and on the Letpadan-Henzada-Bassein branch. The survey of a line into the Southern Shan States was continued, and surveys for branches from Henzada to Kyangin and from Pegu to Martaban (for Moulmein) were carried out.

43. *Pegu and Sittang Canal.*—Improvements to Myitkyo lock chamber were continued. Three miles of the Pegu branch canal were deepened. The raising of the crest of the Pegu river embankment was completed. Materials were collected for the new lock at Minywa.

Sittang-Kyaikto Canal.—A tow path was made along the southern bank.

Kyaikto-Bilin Canal.—Expenditure incurred on ordinary maintenance only.

River conservancy.—Maintenance and improvements were carried out in the Chindwin and Myittha.

Kyaukse district.—The remodelling of the various canal systems and improvements to tanks were continued.

Mandalay Canal.—The main channel was completed and the canal formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 7th January 1902. The construction of the distributary system is in progress.

Shweb Canal.—The final alignment of the main line was completed and that of the two branches proceeded with. Excavation of the main canal was commenced and materials were collected for head works.

Gross Revenue.

44. The gross receipts under the important heads of revenue, as given in paragraph 361 of Part V of the Report, are more than 16 lakhs above the figures for 1900-01. The land revenue receipts given for 1901-02 cover a period of 15 months and the figures for the two financial years show an increase of somewhat over 11 lakhs. Of this increase Rs. 10,30,000, roughly, are credited to Imperal and Rs. 70,000 to Provincial Revenue under the terms of the Provincial contract.

Land Revenue.

45. The ordinary land revenue for the 15 months ending the 30th June 1902 is some 20 lakhs above the revenue for the year 1900-01. The increase was confined to Lower Burma, and resulted from a large growth in cultivated and assessed area and from the introduction of revised and generally higher rates of assessment on revision settlement in parts of four districts. An unfavourable season and shrinkage in cultivation resulted in a considerable decrease in land revenue in Upper Burma. The assessment in Myingyan district increased by more than 4 lakhs, but this was due to the introduction of assessment on all cropped lands, based on a summary settlement, and the *thathameda* tax was reduced proportionately in the district. A similar change, involving about half a lakh of rupees, was made in the Upper Burma portion of Thayetmyo district. A small water-rate, considerably less than in the previous year owing to the failure of water supply, was assessed on lands irrigated by Government and which did not pay land revenue. A Burma Canal Bill is now under preparation, and when this becomes law, water rate will be assessed separately from the land revenue on the area irrigated by the new Mandalay canal and other large irrigation works to be constructed in future.

46. The growth of population in Lower Burma led to an increase of over 1½ lakhs in the capitation tax. A larger number of households were assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma, but considerable reductions were needed in the rate of assessment per household in tracts where crops were poor and, in consequence of this and of the reductions made, as noted above, on the full assessment of land revenue in two districts, the collections were more that 7 lakhs below those of 1900-01. The fishery revenue of Lower Burma shows a considerable advance,

which was partly due to revised methods of administration. A noticeable feature in the receipts under miscellaneous land revenue is an increase from 4½ lakhs to nearly 8 lakhs (the latter covering however a period of 15 months) in the royalties from the Burma oil fields.

Customs. 47. 'Larger exports of rice to Europe and increased imports of salt led to a growth of some 6 lakhs in customs revenue. The duty on imports of European goods was in most cases less than in the previous year as the market had, it would seem, been temporarily overstocked.

Salt. 48. Fewer licenses for the manufacture of salt were issued than in 1900-01, but owing to an increase in the license fees in Lower Burma, the revenue was nearly half a lakh higher. Hitherto no record of outturn has been maintained, and so far as can be ascertained by rough estimates the duty is about one-half the assessment of Re. 1 per maund on imported foreign salt. A direct assessment on output has been introduced since the close of the year in certain districts. Imports of German salt have grown considerably in recent years and a trade is now springing up in salt from Madras.

Excise and Opium. 49. The license fees for the sale of fermented liquors and spirits were more than 2½ lakhs above the previous year's figures. The increase was in country fermented liquors and arose both from keener competition at the sale of licenses and to the opening of additional shops to meet the requirements of consumers. The revenue from opium and excise increased by some 4½ lakhs. There was keen competition at the beginning of the year for the licenses for retail vend, and larger supplies of opium were taken out by the licensees during the year. The large seizures of smuggled opium which have been made from time to time, and calculations based on the requirements of opium consumers, have shown that a very considerable portion of the opium consumed is supplied by illicit means and the arrangements for retail vend have been materially changed in Lower Burma from the 1st April 1902. The number of offences against the excise and opium laws detected during the year was larger than in 1900-01. The check exercised on the illicit traffic in opium by the small preventive staff employed has been found to be largely ineffectual and a much stronger establishment is now being engaged.

Stamps. 50. There was a marked improvement during the year in the sale of judicial stamps consequent on growth in litigation. The sales of non-judicial stamp show a slight increase under most heads.

Assessed taxes. 51. Income tax collections increased by some 8½ per cent. over the previous year's figures. There was a larger assessment under all heads during the year following on a steady growth in trade throughout the Province. On the profits of companies alone, the increase was little less than half a lakh.

Forests. 52. "Forests" is the only important head of revenue in which there was any decrease. Several large timber purchase contracts with private firms have expired in recent years and the extraction of timber under renewed contracts is not yet being fully carried out. In addition to this, the floating season was bad and much of the Government and private timber which was ready for removal could not be brought down to the depôts for sale or to the revenue stations for payment of royalty as the case might be.

Finance. 53. In addition to the growth in the heads of revenue mentioned above the chief increase in Imperial receipts was Rs. 8,98,509 in the gross earnings of State

Railways, which resulted from an extension of mileage and generally heavier traffic. This was met by a growth in expenditure under the same head. Other Imperial expenditure was slightly less on the whole than in the previous years.

Provincial expenditure increased by Rs. 8,30,846 in all. The increase was common to most heads and was largest under Land Revenue and Police. Under Civil Works there was a reduction of 6 lakhs approximately.

Local Funds.

54. The District Cess Funds in Lower Burma depend largely for their income on a cess on the land revenue and the receipts increased with the latter. The expenditure was slightly higher than in the previous year. The receipts of the District Funds in Upper Burma were much the same as in 1900-01 and expenditure was somewhat heavier. The accounts of Municipal and other Excluded Local Funds are dealt with elsewhere in this summary.

Sanitary and Medical Administration.

55. The system of registration of vital statistics was the same as in previous years, but the data were the figures of the census of 1901. As compared with the previous decennium there has been an increase of 24 per cent. in the population of the areas under registration. Small-pox was less prevalent than cholera during the year, the number of deaths from the latter disease being 112 more than in 1900. Upper Burma was practically immune from both. There was less malarial fever and as a result fewer quinine packets were sold. There were no indigenous cases of plague, but five suspicious cases, three of which proved fatal, were reported as occurring amongst passengers arriving by sea. The Thamaing scheme for supplying Rangoon with water was abandoned on financial grounds and the Hlawga project undertaken instead. Operations in connection with the Mandalay and Moulmein water-supply schemes were continued during the year. A scheme for Akyab was postponed in favour of a drainage project which the Sanitary Board considered to be of greater urgency. A number of smaller schemes were begun elsewhere. Thirty-five per cent. of income, or 20 per cent. less than in the previous year, was spent by Municipalities on sanitary works. The amount spent in rural areas remained practically the same. Six new dispensaries were opened and two closed, leaving at the end of the year a total number of 119. There was an increase in the number of persons treated in Government as well as in Railway, Police and private hospitals. Surgical operations were resorted to in more cases than in the previous year. Both receipts and expenditure increased. The amount contributed by Government to hospitals was less than in the preceding year. The question of the recruitment of Hospital Assistants was under consideration. Although the average number of vaccinators and native superintendents of vaccination employed increased slightly, the amount of work done continued to fall. The decline was most noticeable in the Thôngwa and Thatôn districts. Various theories have been advanced to account for this. Probably the truth is that returns are now more carefully scrutinized than formerly and the opportunities for falsification lessened. The number of primary vaccinations fell and the number of re-vaccinations rose. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations at dispensaries was considerably higher than in the previous year, but it was lower than that for the whole province. The quality of the work done in the Rangoon Municipality still leaves much to be desired: the percentage of success was in fact the lowest since 1897-98. There was a slight increase in expenditure on vaccination, Government bearing 25·6 per cent., while the rest was met from Local and Municipal Funds. During the year a new vaccine

depôt was started at Meiktila, which, it is hoped, will be able in time to supply the needs of the whole Province. Proposals were made, but not accepted, for a complete reorganization of the vaccination staff. The Lieutenant-Governor has expressed his readiness to consider proposals for improving the present arrangements provided they are supported by the local officers.

Education.

56. During the year there was an advance in the total number of institutions and in the attendance. The improvement was shared by both public and private institutions. The result is attributable in part to the work of itinerant teachers. The total expenditure, including fees, continued to rise. Fees have increased by over a lakh and a half within the last five years. More money was spent on primary education, but no corresponding improvement is apparent in the results. A scheme for the extension of the temporary salary-grant system in Upper Burma was sanctioned towards the close of the year. It has been laid down by the Government of India that there should be a large increase in the number of primary schools under departmental management. This involves a change of policy which, it is hoped, will serve to improve the condition of primary education in the Province. The transfer of the Rangoon College and Collegiate School from the Educational Syndicate to Government has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State and carried out in the case of the latter institution. It is anticipated that the College will be handed over at the beginning of next financial year. The number of passes for the B.A. degree was the same as in the preceding year. There was a general improvement in the results as regards the other examinations. The *Patamabyan* examinations continue to increase in popularity. A noticeable advance has been made in the matter of female education. Inspection and discipline are reported to have been effective. Many important questions arising out of the recommendations of the Simla Conference have been under discussion, and progress has been made towards the carrying out of the orders of the Government of India on the points raised. A recurring annual grant of four lakhs of rupees has been made to provincial revenues for the purpose of meeting increased expenditure on education. The proposals which were made for the creation of a University for Burma were not accepted and the consideration of the question has been postponed. The Committee on Industrial Education visited Burma during the year.

Arts and Sciences.

57. As an encouragement to the development of Burmese wood and ivory carving, metal-work, silk-weaving and other native arts, an annual art exhibition under Government support has been originated in Rangoon. The exhibition is meeting with fair success.

Archæology.

58. The Government Archæologist was employed on duties outside his department during a great part of the year, and archæological work was confined to the decipherment of a number of inscriptions.

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1901-02.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for 1901-02.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for 1901-02.
Report on the North-East Frontier of Burma for 1901-02.
Report on the Census of Burma for 1901.

Area and boundaries.

THE province of Burma stretches along the whole sea line of the eastern side of the Bay of Bengal and covers a range of country which reaches from the 10th degree north latitude where the mouth of the Pakchan river forms its southernmost boundary with the Malay peninsular to the 28th parallel north latitude, where the dependent State of Hkamti Lông and the Northern Kachin hills wedged in between Manipur with the Naga and Chingpaw hills on the west, and the Chinese province of Yünnan on the north and east reach a boundary still undefined and circumscribed in parts at least only by wild border tribes.

The eastern boundary of the province touches Yünnan, the Chinese-Shan States, the French province of Indo-China, the Siamese Tai States, and Siam proper, and finally follows the Pakchan river down to the Bay of Bengal.

The area thus enclosed includes, besides Burma proper, the Northern and Southern Shan States, the States of Möng Mit and its dependency Möng Lang, the States of Hkamti Lông, Hsawng Hsup, Sinkaling Hkamti, and the Chin and Kachin hill tracts, all of which are under the administration of the Government of Burma.

The total area of the province has been estimated at 238,738 square miles, of which Burma proper occupies 168,573 square miles, the Chin hills some 10,250 square miles, and the Shan States, which comprise the whole of the eastern portion of the province, some 59,915 square miles.

The extreme length of the province is 1,200 miles, and this is also approximately the length of its seaboard. Its extreme width between the 92nd and 101st parallels of longitude at about 21° north latitude is 575 miles.

Natural divisions.

2. The province falls into three natural divisions: Arakan, the Irrawaddy basin, and the old province of Tenasserim.

Of these Arakan is a strip of country lying on the seaward slopes of the range of hills known as the Arakan Yomas.

It stretches from Cape Negrais on the south to the Naaf estuary which divides it from the Chittagong division of the Bengal Presidency on the north, and includes the districts of Sandoway, Kyaukpyu, Akyab and Northern Arakan, an area of some 18,540 square miles. The northern part of this tract is barren hilly country, but in the west and south are rich alluvial plains containing some of the most fertile lands of the province.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

To the east of the Arakan division, and separated from it by the Arakan Yomas, lies the main body of Burma in the basin of the Irrawaddy. This tract falls into four subdivisions.

First, there is the highland tract including the hilly country at the sources of the Chindwin and the upper waters of the Irrawaddy, the Upper Chindwin, Katha, Bhamo, Myitkyina and Ruby Mines districts with the Kachin Hills, and the Northern and Southern Shan States. In the Shan States there are a few open plateaus, fertile and well populated, and Maymyo, the hill station to which in the hot weather the Government of Burma migrates, stands in the Pyin-u-lwin plateau, some 3,500 feet above the sea. But the greater part of this country is a mass of rugged hills cut deep with narrow gorges, within which even the biggest rivers are confined.

The second tract is that known as the dry zone of Burma and includes the whole of the lowlands lying between the Arakan Yomas and the foot of the Shan plateau. It stretches along both sides of the Irrawaddy from the north of Mandalay to Thayetmyo and embraces the Lower Chindwin, Shwebo, Sagaing, Mandalay, Kyauksè, Meiktila, Yamèthin, Myingyan, Magwe, Pakôkku and Minbu districts. This tract consists mostly of undulating lowlands, but it is broken towards the south by the Pegu Yomas, a considerable range of hills which divides the two remaining tracts of the Irrawaddy basin.

On the west, between the Pegu and the Arakan Yomas, stretches the Irrawaddy delta, a vast expanse of level plain 12,000 square miles in area falling in a gradual unbroken slope from its apex not far south of Prome down to the sea. This delta, which includes the districts of Bassein, Myaungmya, Thôngwa, Henzada, Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, Pegu and Rangoon town, consists almost entirely of a rich alluvial deposit, and the whole area, which between Cape Negrais and Elephant Point is no less than 137 miles wide, is fertile in the highest degree.

To the east lies a tract of country which, though geographically a part of the Irrawaddy basin, is cut off from it by the Yomas and forms a separate system draining into the Sittang river. The northern portion of this tract which, on the east, touches the right bank of the Salween river is hilly; the remainder towards the confluence of the Salween, Gyaing and Ataran rivers consists of broad fertile plains. The whole is comprised in the districts of Toungoo and Thatôn, with the Salween Hill tract and the northern parts of Amherst, which form the northern portion of the Tenasserim administrative division.

The third natural division of Burma is the old province of Tenasserim, which, constituted in 1826 with Moulmein as its capital, formed the nucleus from which the British supremacy throughout Burma has grown. It is a narrow strip of country lying between the Bay of Bengal and the high range of hills which form the eastern boundary of the province towards Siam. It comprises the districts of Mergui and Tavoy and a part of Amherst, and includes also the Mergui Archipelago. The surface of this part of the country is mountainous and much intersected with streams.

Mountains.

3. Burma proper is encircled on three sides by a wall of mountain ranges. The Arakan Yomas starting from Cape Negrais extend northwards more or less parallel with the coast till they join the Chin and Naga hills. They then form part of a system of ranges which curve north of the sources of the Chindwin river, and, with the Kumon range and the hills of the Jade and Amber mines, make up a high land tract separated from the great Northern Shan plateau by the gorges of the Irrawaddy river. On the east the Kachin, Shan and Karen hills extending from the valley of the Irrawaddy into China far beyond the Salween gorge form a continuous barrier and boundary, and tail off into a narrow range which forms the eastern watershed of the Salween and separates Tenasserim from Siam. The highest peak of the Arakan Yomas, Liklang, rises nearly 10,000 feet above the sea, and in the Eastern Kachin hills, which run northwards from the State of Möng Mit to join the high range dividing the basins of the Irrawaddy and the Salween, are two peaks, Sabu and Worang, which rise to a height of no less than 11,200 feet above sea level. The Kumon range running down from the Hkamti country east of Assam to near Mogaung ends in a peak known as Shweaunggyi, which reaches some 5,750 feet, and there are several peaks in the Ruby Mines which rise beyond 7,000 feet.

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Compared with these ranges the Pegu Yomas assume the proportions of mere hills. Popa, a detached peak in the Myingyan district, belongs to this system and rises to a height of nearly 5,000 feet, but it is interesting mainly as an extinct volcano, a land-mark, and an object of superstitious folklore throughout the whole of Central Burma. Mud volcanoes occur at Minbu, but they are not in any sense mountains, resembling rather the hot springs which are found in many parts of Burma. They are merely craters raised above the level of the surrounding country by the gradual accretion of the soft, oily mud which overflows at frequent intervals whenever a discharge of gas occurs.

Spurs of the Chin Hills run down the whole length of the Lower Chindwin district, almost to Sagaing, and one hill, Powindaung, is particularly noted on account of its innumerable cave temples, which are said to hold no less than 446,444 images of Buddha.

Huge caves, of which the most noted are the Farm caves, occur in the hills near Moulmein, and they, too, are full of relics of their ancient use as temples, though now they are chiefly visited in connection with the bats, whose flight viewed from a distance as they issue from the caves resembles a cloud of smoke.

Rivers.

4. Of the rivers of Burma, the Irrawaddy is easily first. It rises far beyond the confines of Burma in the unexplored regions, where India, Thibet and China meet, and its sources are quite unknown.

Two rivers, the Mali and the 'N'mai,' meeting about latitude 25° 45′ some 150 miles north of Bhamo, contribute chiefly to its volume, and during the rains it is navigable for steamers up to their confluence.

Up to Bhamo, a distance of 900 miles from the sea, it is navigable throughout the year, and its chief tributary in Burma, the Chindwin, is also navigable for steamers for no less than 300 miles from its junction with the Irrawaddy at Pakôkku.

The Chindwin, called in its upper reaches the Tanai, rises in the hills south-west of Thama and flows due north till it enters the south-east corner of the Hukawng valley where it turns north-west and continues in that direction cutting the valley into two almost equal parts until it reaches its north-west verge, when it turns almost due south and takes the name of the Chindwin. It is a swift, clear river, fed in its upper reaches by numerous mountain streams of which the Tarong and the Tawan are the chief. Further south its chief tributaries are the Uyu, Yu and the Myittha.

The Mogaung river rising in the watershed which divides the Irrawaddy and the Chindwin drainages, flows south and south-east for 180 miles before it joins the Irrawaddy, and is navigable for steamers as far as Kamaing for about four months in the year.

The Taiping, another tributary of the Irrawaddy, rises in China and traverses some 40 miles of British territory before it enters the main river just above Bhamo. It is shallow and not navigable except in country boats.

The Mole, a tortuous stream about 100 miles long, is also a left bank affluent of the Irrawaddy and is navigable in country boats during the rains for about three-quarters of its length.

Further south the Shweli, which rises in the Chinese Shan Hills, winds through the State of Möng Mit and turning northwards finally reaches the Irrawaddy at the north of the Ruby Mines district. The Myitngè flowing from the Northern Shan Hills joins the Irrawaddy at Ava.

Within the limits of the dry zone besides the Chindwin the only considerable tributaries of the Irrawaddy are the Mu, which runs parallel from the north between the Irrawaddy and the Chindwin joining the main river at Myinmu, and the Môn which enters the Irrawaddy just above Minbu.

Besides these there are numerous streams, such as the Yenangyaung, the Pin, the Yin, Sadon and Mongyaung, which in the rains assume at times the proportions of rivers, but in the dry weather are merely wide stretches of dry sand with the merest trace of water.

South of Thayetmyo, where arms of the Arakan Yomas approach the river and almost meet that spur of the Pegu Yomas which formed till less than 20 years ago the northern boundary of British Burma, the valley of the Irrawaddy opens out again, and at Yegin Mingyi near Myanaung the influence of the tide is first felt and the delta may be said to begin. The so-called rivers of the delta,

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

the Ngawun (on which stands the port of Bassein), the Pyamalaw, Panmawaddy, Pyinzalu and Pantanaw are simply the larger mouths of the Irrawaddy, and the whole country towards the sea is a close network of creeks where there are few or no roads, and boats take the place of carts for every purpose.

There is, however, one true river of some size, the Hlaing, which rises near Prome, flows southwards and meets the Pegu river and the Pazundaung creek near Rangoon, and thus forms the estuary which is known as the Rangoon river and constitutes the harbour of Rangoon.

This harbour has not altered appreciably during the last ten years. Some small erosion has occurred at the mouth and one or two shoals have become better defined, but not so as to materially impede navigation.

East of the Rangoon river and still within the deltaic area, though cut off from the main delta by the southern end of the Pegu Yomas, lies the mouth of the Sittang. This river, rising near the northern end of the Yomas, flows southward through the Kyauksè, Yamèthin and Toungoo districts, its line being followed by the Mandalay-Rangoon Railway as far south as Nyaunglebin in the Pegu district.

At Toungoo it is narrow but below Shwegyin it widens, and at Sittang it is half a mile broad. It flows into the Gulf of Martaban, and near its mouth its course is constantly changing owing to erosion and corresponding accretions within the limits of what is practically the delta of the Sittang and the Bilin.

The second river in the province in respect of size is the Salween, a huge river, believed from the volume of its waters to rise in the Thibetan mountains to the north of Lhassa. It is in all probability actually longer than the Irrawaddy, but it is not to be compared with that river in importance. It is, in fact, a mere torrent walled in on either side with banks varying in British territory from 3,000 to 6,000 feet high and quite unnavigable except for very short distances between the rapids of its lower reaches.

The Gyaing and the Attaran rivers meet the Salween at its mouth, and the three rivers form the harbour of Moulmein, the second sea port of Burma. The harbour is somewhat difficult of access owing to the constant silting up of the channels. The Gyaing and Attaran are both short rivers, but are navigable by country boats almost to the frontiers of Siam, in the hills of which they rise.

The remaining rivers of Tenasserim, the Tavoy, the Tenasserim and the Pakchan, are mere mountain streams and are none of them navigable for any distance.

Arakan similarly has no rivers of any size, but the coast is pierced by a number of estuaries, of which the most important are the Naaf, which separates Northern Arakan from Chittagong, the Mayu, the Kaladan, and the Lemru. Akyab at the mouth of the Kaladan has a fair harbour protected by the Baronga and the Savage Islands, and the whole delta of the Lemru is a net-work of tidal creeks which afford ready communication by boat with almost every village in the deltaic area.

Lakes.

5. The largest lake in the province is Indawgyi in the Myitkyina district. It has an area of nearly 100 square miles and is surrounded on three sides by ranges of hills, but open to the north where it has an outlet in the Indaw river. In the highlands of the Shan hills there are the Inlè lakes near Yawnghwe, and in the Katha district also there is another Indaw which covers some 60 square miles.

Other lakes are the Paunglin lake in Minbu district, the Inma lake in Prome, the Tu and Duya in Henzada, the Shagegyi and the Inyegyi in Bassein, the sacred lake at Ye in Tenasserim, and the Nagamauk, Panzemyaung and Walonbyan in Arakan.

The Meiktila lake covers an area of some five square miles, but is to some extent at least an artificial reservoir.

In the heart of the delta numerous large lakes or marshes abounding in fish are formed by the overflow of the Irrawaddy river during the rainy season, but these either assume very diminutive proportions or disappear altogether in the dry season.

Soil.

6. The physical characteristics of the country vary greatly in the different tracts. The Arakan Yoma is in most part composed of beds of early tertiary age resting on cretaceous beds which crop out on the western face of the

range. The surface rocks are mainly the dark-brown sandstone, black gneis and brown or grey clay slate. Towards the south, basalt is plentiful and islands of volcanic origin are scattered along the whole length of the coast. Lime has been found and is burnt in the Bassein and Thayetmyo districts, and also occurs in Kyaukpyu, while coal, iron and petroleum are extracted, though not in quantities of any considerable commercial value. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

In the sandstone hills north of Arakan, jade and amber mines have been profitably worked by Chinamen, and in the Ruby Mines and Katha districts, where stiff clays overlying sandstone and marble predominate, rubies, spinel, sapphires, and moonstones are found, and produce in the former district a very considerable revenue. Coal has been found and is worked in Shwebo, and a survey of the coalfields of Katha has lately been made with a view to mining. Near Mandalay the prevailing minerals are granite, limestone and sandstone; while alabaster, used mainly in the making of colossal images of Buddha, is also largely extracted.

Gold is found in the sand of numerous streams throughout the province. Gold workings are to be seen near Tavoy in the extreme south of the province; and above Bhamo in the extreme north, operations on a large scale with modern machinery are being undertaken.

The mineral so far most extensively worked is petroleum, which occurs in Kyaukpyu, in Shwebo, and in the Lower Chindwin, and is produced in large quantities by modern methods from wells in the Myingyan, Pakôkku and Magwe districts.

Mammoth bones are found in the river alluvium above Mandalay as well as in Magwe, and parts of the latter district are littered with fossil wood.

Along the valley of the Irrawaddy till it reaches the delta, the soil is for the most part sandy, but in the delta itself the soil is entirely alluvial, as is also that of the northern portion of Tenasserim above Moulmein.

The prevailing rock in this area is sandstone intersected with seams of quartz. At Amherst granite is found, and towards the south granite with white felspar becomes the sole formation. Clay, slate and micareous iron are found on the eastern slope of the hills, and tin is extensively worked in Mergui. Lead also is found there and in Toungoo, and copper, mica, sulphur and saltpetre are found in small quantities in various parts of the province.

7. In most parts of Lower Burma and in portions of the upper province the abundant rainfall renders the climate moist and depressing for nearly half the year, but in the dry zone which extends across the country immediately above the old Burmese frontier from the 20th to the 22nd degree of latitude and comprises, roughly speaking, the whole of the Minbu and Meiktila divisions, the rainfall is less copious and the climate less humid. North of this dry belt again the rainy season is more marked; and though cooler than further south, it is also damper. The rainfall in the coast districts varies from about 200 inches in the Arakan and Tenasserim divisions to an average of 90 in Rangoon and the adjoining portion of the Irrawaddy delta. In the extreme north of Upper Burma the rainfall is rather less than in the country adjoining Rangoon, and in the dry zone the annual average falls as low as 20 and 30 inches. The temperature varies almost as much as the rainfall. **Climate.**

Except in the dense forest tracts and the remoter portions of some of the outlying districts of Upper Burma, where malarious fever is prevalent, the province is by no means unhealthy either for Europeans or for the natives of the country.

8. The staple products of the province are rice and timber. Rice is practically the one crop grown throughout the deltaic districts, and it is also produced in other parts of the province on low-lying and irrigated lands and on hill-side clearings. It constitutes the food of the people generally, and is the chief article of export. Teak is found generally in the forests on the sides of the different hill ranges, and is extracted in large quantities for export along with other less valuable forms of timber. **Staples.**

Minor forest produce comprises rubber, cutch, lac, and various fibres. Fruits, such as dorian, marian, mangoes, pineapple, with betel-nut, betel-leaf and various vegetable oils are produced in Tavoy and Mergui, and exported to other parts of the province.

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Palm sugar is largely made by boiling down the sap of the palmyra, and is used in the manufacture of fermented liquor and the local spirit known as arrack. Sessamum, maize, millet, pulses, cotton and ground-nuts are the chief crops in the dry zone of Upper Burma, but wheat, sugar-cane and tobacco are also grown. In certain of the hill-tracts tea and coffee are cultivated with moderate success.

Early history.

9. The early history of Burma, so far as it can be gathered from the native records, shows that in former days several distinct races and dynasties occupied different parts of the country. The Burman dynasties of Tagaung and Pagan, Ava, Prome and Toungoo, the Talaing Kings of Pegu and Martaban, and Shan rulers of Ava and Sagaing exercised control over a more or less extended sphere, at times succeeding in subduing the whole tract of Burma proper and overrunning the neighbouring Kingdoms of Arakan, Siam and the Shan States, and at times dwindling in power before the uprising of rival Kingdoms previously subjected, or the inroads of Mongols, Shans and Chinese from beyond the border.

10. The earliest European connection with Burma was in 1519, when the Portuguese concluded a treaty with the King of Pegu and established factories at Martaban and Syriam. Towards the close of the 16th century the Dutch obtained possession of the island of Negrais, and about the year 1612 the English East India Company had agents and factories at Syriam, Prome and Ava, and perhaps Bhamo. About the middle of the 17th century all European merchants were expelled from the country owing to a dispute between the Burmese Governor of Pegu and the Dutch. The Dutch never returned. In 1688 the Burmese Governor of Syriam wrote to the English Governor of Madras inviting British merchants to settle in Pegu, and in 1698 a commercial resident was sent to Syriam and a factory was built there and others at Negrais and Bassein. The French also had a settlement at Syriam. Meanwhile the Burmese dynasty of Ava, which had obtained supremacy throughout Burma under Bayinhaung, was harassed by inroads from China and Manipur, and finally destroyed by the rebellion of the Talaing Kingdom of Pegu. After some years of Talaing supremacy a new Burmese dynasty was established by Alompra, who succeeded in uniting his countrymen, the Burmese, and crushed the Talaings. In 1755 Alompra founded Rangoon to celebrate his conquest of the Talaings and destroyed Syriam which resisted for some months.

11. The English Merchants at Syriam favoured the Burmans, and the French the Talaings, but both attempted to keep on friendly terms with the other side when it appeared likely to be successful. After Alompra's success he found that the French had been supplying warlike stores to the Talaings and he put all Frenchmen to death. Though the English had at times supported the Talaings, they were granted the island of Negrais and a factory at Bassein, but in 1759 they were again suspected of supplying arms to the rebels and the factories were destroyed, ten Englishmen and a hundred Natives of India being murdered. In the following year Alompra died while laying siege to Ayuthia, the capital of Siam, and the English obtained permission from his successor, Naungdawgyi, to re-establish the Bassein factory, though all compensation for the massacre was peremptorily refused. Sinbyushin, who succeeded his brother Naungdawgyi, took Manipur and Siam and defeated two inroads from China. He died in 1776 and was succeeded by his brother Bodawpaya, who conquered Arakan in 1784. This brought Burma into collision with the British in Chittagong. The Arakanese outlaws took refuge over the border and harassed the Burmese rulers by inroads from British territory. The Burmese demanded that they should be given up and endeavoured to pursue them into British territory. This gave rise to friction, and in order to assist in the adjustment of matters in dispute an Envoy was sent to Burma in 1795 by the Governor-General of India.

12. In 1796 a Resident was deputed to Rangoon. In 1819 Bodawpaya died and was succeeded by his grandson Bagyidaw. Matters had not improved on the border, and in 1824 the Burmese invaded Manipur and Assam, and Maha Bandula, the great Burmese General, started with an army from Ava to take command in Arakan and invade Bengal. The British Government formally declared war

against Burma on the 5th March 1824. The Burmese were driven out of Assam, Kachar and Manipur, and Rangoon was occupied by a force which was detailed for the main invasion. The troops suffered much from sickness as soon as the rains began, and all movements by land became impracticable. Between August and November Mergui, Tavoy, Martaban and Pegu were occupied. In December the British force occupying Rangoon had been reduced by sickness and detached expeditions to about 1,300 Europeans and 2,500 Natives fit for duty. The Burmese under Maha Bandula made a determined effort to drive the invaders into the sea. A Burmese army, said to have numbered 60,000 men, surrounded the position and advanced to the attack. The attack was repulsed with great slaughter and the Burmese Army dwindled away, a portion of it retiring to Danubyu which Maha Bandula fortified with great skill for a further effort. The British troops having been reinforced marched up the valley of the Irrawaddy, and on the 2nd April 1825 took Danubyu. Maha Bandula was killed in the cannonade, and with him all serious resistance came to an end. Prome was occupied on the 2nd April, and the troops went into cantonment for the rains. Meanwhile a second British army had occupied Arakan with the intention of crossing the Yoma into Burma from the west, but owing to the difficulties of the country and the unhealthiness of the climate this scheme was abandoned.

13. In September 1825 the Burmese endeavoured to treat, but as they would not agree to the terms offered hostilities recommenced, and in December the British advanced and, after several actions with the Burmese troops, reached Yandabo on the 16th February. Here the Envoys of the King signed a treaty ceding to the British Assam, Arakan and the coast of Tenasserim, and agreeing to pay a million stirling towards the expenses of the war. Rangoon was retained by the British until the end of the year, when the second instalment of the indemnity was paid. The British rebuilt Moulmein, which became the capital of the new British province of Tenasserim. In November 1825 a commercial treaty was signed at Ava, but it was not until 1830 that a Resident at Ava was appointed under the treaty.

In 1837 Bagyidaw was deposed by his brother Tharrawaddy, who in 1846 was succeeded by his son Pagan Min.

14. In 1852, owing to a succession of outrages committed on British subjects by the Burmese Governor of Rangoon, for which all reparation was refused, the British again declared war against the King of Burma, and towards the close of the same year Lord Dalhousie proclaimed that the whole of the province of Pegu, as far north as the parallel of latitude six miles north of the fort at Myedè, was annexed to the British Empire. Almost immediately after this Pagan Min was deposed by his brother Mindôn Min, who ruled his curtailed kingdom with wisdom and success.

The pacification of Pegu and its reduction to order occupied about ten years of constant work. In 1862 Her Majesty's possessions in Burma, namely, the Provinces of Arakan, Pegu, Martaban and Tenasserim, were amalgamated and formed into the Province of British Burma under the administration of a Chief Commissioner. Lieutenant-Colonel Phayre was appointed the first Chief Commissioner of Burma.

15. In 1867 a treaty was concluded at Mandalay between the British and Burmese Governments providing for the mutual extradition of criminals, the free intercourse of traders, and the establishment of permanent diplomatic relations between the two countries. In October 1878 King Mindôn died and was succeeded by his son King Thibaw. Early in 1879 the execution of a number of the members of the Royal family at Mandalay excited much horror in Lower Burma, and matters became much strained between the two countries owing to the indignation amongst Englishmen at the barbarities of the Burmese Court, and the resentment in the minds of the King and his courtiers at the attitude of the British Resident. In October 1879, owing to the unsatisfactory position of the British Resident in Mandalay, the Government of India withdrew their representative from the Burmese Court. During the reign of King Thibaw matters drifted from bad to worse. The Central Government lost control of many of the outlying districts and the elements

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of disorder on the British frontier were a standing menace to the peace of the country. The Court, in contravention of the express terms of the treaty of 1869, created monopolies to the detriment of the trade both of England and Burma. An Embassy visited Simla in 1882, but the attempt to restore cordial relations was fruitless. The King abruptly recalled his Envoy while negotiations were going on. While the Indian Government was unrepresented at Mandalay, representatives of Italy and France were welcomed and two separate embassies were sent to Europe for the purpose of contracting new and, if possible, close alliances with sundry European powers. Matters were brought to a crisis towards the close of 1885, when the Burmese Court imposed a fine of, in round numbers, 23 lakhs of rupees upon the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation and refused to comply with a suggestion of the Indian Government that the cause of complaint should be investigated by an impartial arbitrator.

Annexation of Upper Burma.

16. In view of the long series of unsatisfactory episodes in the British relations with Burma during King Thibaw's reign, the Government of India decided once for all to adjust the relations between the two countries. An ultimatum was despatched to King Thibaw requiring him to suspend action against the Corporation, to receive at Mandalay an Envoy from the Viceroy, who should be treated with the respect due to the Government which he represented, and to regulate the external relations of the country in accordance with the advice of the Government of India.

This ultimatum was despatched on the 22nd October 1885. On the 9th November a reply was received in Rangoon amounting to an unconditional refusal of the terms laid down. On the 7th November King Thibaw issued a proclamation calling on his subjects to drive the British heretics into the sea. On the 14th November 1885 the British expedition crossed the frontier and advanced to Mandalay without encountering any serious resistance. Ava was reached on the 26th November and an Envoy from the King signified his submission. On the 28th November the British occupied Mandalay, and next day King Thibaw was sent down the river to Rangoon, whence he was afterwards transferred to India. Upper Burma was formally annexed on the 1st January 1886, and the work of restoring the country to order and introducing settled Government commenced. For some years the country was disturbed by the lawless spirits who had been multiplying under the late *règime,* but by the close of 1889 all the larger bands of marauders were broken up, and since 1890 the country has enjoyed greater freedom from violent crime than the province formerly known as British Burma.

Relations with Siam.

17. The history of the relations of this province with Siam is principally concerned with the efforts made to maintain the peace on the Siamese frontier and to secure protection for British subjects in the Siamese Province of Chiengmai, which borders on the eastern frontier of Burma. In 1874 a treaty, framed with a view to the repression of violent crimes on the frontier and the protection of British subjects travelling or residing in Chiengmai and the neighbouring provinces, was concluded with the King of Siam. This treaty was found to be quite ineffectual in securing the desired ends, and in 1878 Major C. W. Street, of the British Burma Commission, was deputed to visit Chiengmai and Bangkôk with a view to ascertaining by local enquiry the real necessities of the case and obtaining satisfactory assurances from the Siamese Government. The mission was so far successful that much valuable information was obtained, and arrangements were subsequently made for placing a British Vice-Consul at Chiengmai; the first Vice-Consul arrived at Chiengmai in May 1884. On the 3rd September 1883 a treaty was concluded which provided, among other matters, for the issue of passports, the extradition of criminals, the trial in Siam of cases in which British subjects are concerned and the working of forests in Siam by British subjects. On the 30th November 1885 a supplementary article to the treaty of 3rd September 1883 was signed providing for extradition of criminals between Burma and all the conterminous territories of Siam. In accordance with the treaty of 1883, passports are granted to British subjects travelling in Siam by Deputy Commissioners and by a number of British Officers and Shan *Sawbwas* in the Shan States. In 1887 an Order in Council prescribed the registration of all British subjects

resident in Siam. This was superseded in 1889 by another Siam Order in Council which regulates also the exercise of Civil and Criminal jurisdiction by Consular Courts in Siam. Our relations with Siam have continued friendly up to the present time. For some years after the annexation of Upper Burma there was discussion with Siam regarding the boundary between Siam and the trans-Salween territory of certain Shan States. The Siamese claimed trans-Salween Karenni and some other small States to the east of the Salween as part of the province of Chiengmai. In order to investigate the Siamese claims the territory was visited by the late Mr. Ney Elias in 1890. The Siamese refused to take part in his exploration, but in 1892-93 a joint Commission of English and Siamese officers demarcated the frontier along the line selected by Mr. Ney Elias.

Relations with China.

18. The records of China and Burma, generally speaking, corroborate each other in recounting a long series of wars between the two countries previous to the accession of Alompra. From the year 1790 complimentary presents were exchanged between the Burmese and Chinese Courts with more or less regularity every ten years or thereabouts At the time of the annexation negotiations were opened with China on the subject of our relations with that country through Upper Burma. The Chinese manifested a friendly spirit in these negotiations. A Convention signed at Pekin on the 24th July 1886 provided, amongst other matters, for the continuance of the decennial missions, the recognition by China of British rule in Burma, the delimitation of the frontier, and the encouragement of international trade. In the course of subsequent negotiations it was agreed that the decennial mission should be abandoned. A Convention was signed on the 1st March 1894, which defined the boundary along a prescribed line. The Convention went on to waive British rights in the trans-Salween states of Münglem and Kianghung with the proviso that the Chinese Government should not cede these territories to any other nation without previously coming to an agreement with the British Government. The Convention contained further articles designed to promote free intercourse and to encourage trade between Burma and China. Finally it provided for the demarcation of the boundary on the ground by a joint Commission. In the following year the Chinese infringed this Convention by ceding a part of Kianghung to France in derogation of its provisions. This breach of treaty led to the conclusion of a supplementary agreement with China on the 4th February 1897, which defined the boundary afresh in a sense more liberal to British claims than the Convention of 1894, and made further provision for opening China to trade. These concessions were made by China in consideration of the British Government waiving its objections to the breach by China of the Convention of 1894.

The provision for the demarcation of the boundary on the ground by a joint Commission remained in force, and in accordance with it the demarcation was carried on by a British and a Chinese Commissioner, aided by Sub-Commissioners between November 1897 and May 1900. The Commissioners demarcated the boundary from latitude 25° 33′ to latitude 23° 28′ and from latitude 22° 9′ to latitude 21° 46′. The section of the frontier lying between latitude 23° 28′ and latitude 22° 9′ has not yet been demarcated. This part of the frontier borders on the Wa States which are inhabited by hostile and practically independent tribes. A commencement was made with demarcation in the winter of 1899-00, but owing to the hostility of the Was and to differences between the Commissioners it was found impossible to complete the work

19. Although China marches with Burma along the greater part of the Shan States frontier, relations are mainly confined to the districts of Bhamo and Myitkyina. Along the rest of the border Chinese territory consists for the most part of Shan States, which are tributary to China and over which China exercises an authority which is little more than nonimal. Myitkyina and Bhamo border on territory which is China proper and is under direct Chinese administration. The Chinese town of Têngyüeh, through which the bulk of the Burma-China trade passes, is only a few marches distant from the frontier. Our relations with China on this frontier are on the whole friendly. Communication is regularly kept up between the local officers on both sides, and, though the Chinese give frequent cause for complaint by the laxity and corruptness of the local administration,

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amicable relations are nevertheless maintained. Of late years a British Consu has been stationed at Têngyüeh, and in May 1902 a station of the Chinese Maritime Customs was established there. The presence of a Consul at Têngyüeh and the establishment of a Customs station have already had beneficial results in improving the local administration and in freeing trade from the illegal exactions by which it was harassed in former years.

Lieutenant-Governor and Council.

20. In 1897 the province, which had formerly been administered by a Chief Commissioner, was raised to a Lieutenant-Governorship. By section 3 of the Burma Laws Act, 1898, Burma was defined as the territories for the time being administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma. The Lieutenant-Governor also exercises political control over Karenni, a tract of country consisting of several petty states situated between Burma and Siam and lying outside of British India, which are in subordinate alliance with the British Government. A Legislative Council, for the purpose of making laws and regulations, was constituted in 1897. The number of members is nine, with the Lieutenant-Governor as President. The members are nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor and appointed by the Government. Five are ordinarily Government servants and four are selected from the non-official community.

Administrative Divisions—Shan States.

21. The primary administrative division of Burma is into Upper Burma, including the Shan States and the Chin Hills, and Lower Burma. The Shan States are administered by the Chiefs of the States subject to the supervision of the Superintendents of the Northern and Southern Shan States in the case of the Northern Shan States and the Southern and "Myelat" Shan States respectively, and to the supervision of the Commissioners of the adjoining divisions in the case of the other States. By section 11 of the Burma Laws Act, 1898, the civil, criminal and revenue administration of every Shan State is vested in the Chief of the State subject to the restriction specified in the sanad or order of appointment granted to him. Under the same section the law to be administered in each State is the customary law of the State so far as it is in accordance with justice, equity and good conscience and not opposed to the spirit of the law in force in the rest of British India. Power to appoint officers to take part in the administration of any State and to regulate their powers and proceedings is vested in the Government.

Chin Hills.

22. In Burmese times the Chin Hills of Upper Burma were independent of external control. After the annexation they were gradually brought under administration, and, in September 1895, were formally declared to be part of the province of Burma. They are administered by a Superintendent, and the law in force in them is declared by the Chin Hills Regulation, 1896. So far as persons other than Chins are concerned, the law is the same as the law in force in Upper Burma. So far as Chins are concerned, the criminal law is the same, with a few modifications, as the law of Upper Burma. The Chin Hills form a Sessions division and a district, and the Superintendent is appointed Sessions Judge. The revenue and general law of Burma does not apply to Chins, who are at a low stage of civilization. These matters are regulated for them by a few simple provisions in the Chin Hills Regulation, 1896, and the rules thereunder. A small portion of the Chin Hills called the Pakôkku Chin Hills is outside the jurisdiction of the Superintendent and is controlled by the Commissioner of the Minbu Division.

Executive officers.

23. Upper Burma, exclusive of the Shan States, is a scheduled district. The law in force there is closely assimilated to that in force in Lower Burma, the Acts which are in force in Upper Burma being specified in the first schedule to the Burma Laws Act. The rest of this chapter applies, except where the contrary is stated, to Upper Burma exclusive of the Shan States and the Chin Hills, and to Lower Burma.

24. The chief executive officers under the Lieutenant-Governor are eight Commissioners of Divisions, four in Lower Burma and four in Upper Burma. The Commissioners are *ex-officio* Sessions Judges in their several divisions, and have civil powers under the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900, and Upper Burma Civil

Courts Regulation, 1896, and powers as Revenue Officers under the Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889. They are also responsible to the Lieutenant-Governor, each in his own division, for the working of every department of the public service except the Military Department and the branches of the Administration directly under the control of the Supreme Government. Certain of them also supervise certain Shan States adjoining their divisions, and the Commissioner of the Minbu Division superintends the Pakôkku Chin Hills.

25. Under the Commissioners are 36 Deputy Commissioners including the Police Officers in charge of the Northern Arakan and Salween districts who exercise the powers of a Deputy Commissioner. The Deputy Commissioners perform the functions of District Magistrates, District Judges, Collectors and Registrars, and the miscellaneous duties which fall to the principal District Officer as the representative of Government. Subordinate to the Deputy Commissioners are Assistant Commissioners, Extra Assistant Commissioners and Myoôks, who are invested with various magisterial, civil and revenue powers and hold charge of the townships, as the units of regular civil and revenue jurisdiction are called, and the subdivisions of districts into which most of these townships are grouped. Among the salaried staff of officials the Township Officers are the ultimate representatives of Government who come into most direct contact with the people.

Village system.

26. Finally, there are the village headmen, assisted in Lower Burma by *seeingaungs* (rural policemen in charge of 10 houses), and in Upper Burma by elders variously designated. Similarly, in the towns there are headmen of wards and elders of blocks. The system of revenue collection through the agency of village headmen is being steadily developed. In Lower Burma the land revenue and other district taxes were at one time collected by circle *thugyis* in charge of large groups of villages, but these circle appointments are now, with rare exceptions, being abolished as they fall vacant from death, retirement or other cause. The *myothugyis* in Upper Burma, who had in some instances been entrusted with this work, will similarly disappear in the course of a few years. The headmen are remunerated by commission on the amount of revenue which they collect.

Revenue Administration.

27. The revenue administration of the province is superintended by a Financial Commissioner, assisted by two Secretaries and a Director of Land Records and Agriculture with a Land Records Departmental staff. In 1900 a Settlement Commissioner was appointed for a period of five years to supervise directly the work of officers engaged in the introduction and revision of land revenue settlements.

Judicial Administration.

28. The purely Judicial officers of the province are the four Judges of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, and the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, the Additional Sessions Judges, Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions, the Judge and the Additional Judge of the Small Cause Court, Rangoon, two Judges at Moulmein and Mandalay who combine the functions of additional Sessions Judge, District Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, and 28 Subordinate Civil Judges. The Chief Court of Lower Burma was constituted in 1900 under the Lower Burma Courts Act, 1900.

The Chief Court is the highest Civil Court of appeal and the highest Court of Criminal appeal and revision for Lower Burma. It is also the High Court for the whole of Burma (including the Shan States) in reference to proceedings against European British subjects. It is the principal Civil and Criminal Court of original jurisdiction for Rangoon Town, and hears appeal from all sentences of Courts or Magistrates exercising jurisdiction in Rangoon Town. It has within Rangoon Town the powers of a Court for the relief of insolvent debtors under the Indian Insolvency Act, 1848.

In criminal and civil matters the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, exercises, in Upper Burma, the powers of a High Court for appeal, reference and revision, except in respect of criminal cases in which European British subjects are accused.

* All Commissioners are also Divisional and Sessions Judges. All Deputy Commissioners are also District Judges and District Magistrates. All Subdivisional

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officers and Township officers are Magistrates, and nearly all are Civil Judges. All village headmen have limited magisterial powers and a considerable number exercise the powers of Civil Courts. The appointment of separate subordinate Civil Judges has made progress of late years and further changes in the direction of the separation of Judicial and Executive functions are under consideration.

Public Works.

29. Besides the General, Revenue and Judicial Services mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, the several auxiliary branches of the Administration may be briefly noticed. The Public Works Department is under the control of the Chief Engineer, who is also Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department. There are five Superintending Engineers (including one for Irrigation) and 59 Executive and Assistant Engineers, 13 Temporary Engineers and four Honorary Assistant Engineers.

Police.

30. The superior staff of the Police consists of an Inspector-General of Police, one Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Police, one Deputy Inspector-General of Military Police, one Deputy Inspector-General of Police for Supply and Clothing, 39 District Superintendents of Police, 48 Assistant Superintendents of Police (temporarily 53) and 149 Inspectors of Police. The Military Police are officered by two Adjutants, 11 Commandants, two Assistant Adjutants and 33 Assistant Commandants.

Medical.

31. The control of the Medical Department is vested in an Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, who is also Superintendent-General of Vaccination and Sanitary Commissioner. There is a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner to assist him. The

Jails.

control of the Jail Department was in 1899 entrusted to a separate officer, who is styled Inspector-General of Jails.

Forests.

32. The Forest Department is administered by four Conservators, assisted by 31 Deputy Conservators, 13 Assistant Conservators, five extra Deputy Conservators and 22 Extra Assistant Conservators.

Excise.

33. The Excise Department is under the control of the Financial Commissioner as Chief Revenue Authority. Prior to 1902 the enforcement of the excise laws rested mainly with the Police Department, and the special excise staff was unimportant. With effect from 1st April 1902 a preventive establishment consisting of 19 Superintendents and 19 Inspectors of Excise with subordinate staff has been appointed in Lower Burma for the more effectual supervision of the opium administration.

Ports and Customs.

34. The Financial Commissioner is *ex-officio* the Chief Customs authority. At Rangoon there is a Chief Collector of Customs and an Assistant Collector and Superintendent of Preventive Service, and at each of the three other principal ports, Moulmein, Bassein and Akyab, there is a Collector, and at Moulmein an Assistant Collector also. At Rangoon there is a Principal Port Officer and Assistant Port Officer; at the other three ports above named the Collector of Customs is also Port Officer.

Education.

35. At the head of the Education Department is the Director of Public Instruction, and the work of inspection is carried on by four Inspectors, four Assistant Inspectors, 38 Deputy Inspectors and one Sub-Inspector. The Rangoon College, which is affiliated to the Calcutta University in Arts up to the M.A. Standard inclusive and in Law, comprises nine Lecturers including the Principal. The Educational Syndicate is a body outside of the Education Department, which has for its object the promotion of education throughout the province. It receives a grant from Government.

Ecclesiastical.

36. There is a Bishop of Rangoon and an Archdeacon, and there are 10 Chaplains. Six Clergymen not on the Ecclesiastical establishment receive allowances from Government.

Local Self-Government.

37. The Burma Municipal Act was passed in 1898 by the local Legislative Council. It is in force in Lower Burma and at Mandalay and Pyinmana in Upper Burma. There are 28 Municipal Towns in Lower Burma and 14 in Upper Burma. Of the latter in all but the two above named the Municipal Committees are constituted under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation, 1887. There are eight Town

Committees in Lower Burma and two in Upper Burma. In nine of the Lower Burma Municipalities and in Mandalay some of the members of the Committee are elected. In the remainder all the members are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor or the Commissioner of the division.

Miscellaneous.

38. The Accounts Department is controlled by an Accountant-General, assisted by a Deputy Accountant-General and three Assistant Accountants-General. The Telegraph Department is administered by three Superintendents, assisted by four Assistant Superintendents. The Post Office Department is under the management of a Deputy Postmaster-General with eleven Superintendents and seventeen Inspectors.

Tenures of Land (Lower Burma).

Modes of acquiring ownership.

39. In Lower Burma rights over land in the rural tracts are acquired under the Land and Revenue Act, No. II of 1876, which gave the force of law to the customary modes of acquisition found current when the province came under British rule. A permanent right of use and occupancy in land may be acquired under that Act either by a 12 years' continuous squatting occupation, combined with regular payment of the land revenue, or by a specific grant from the State. The first of these modes of acquisition is most common in tracts which are in an advanced state of cultivation, where the margin of waste land is comparatively small and where cultivation, therefore, increases by gradual extension of existing holdings. The latter of the two modes of acquiring rights over land is commonly resorted to by new-comers in the more remote tracts. Exemption from payment of revenue for varying terms is allowed to grantees of land according to the difficulty of clearing. No restriction is placed on the right of a landholder to alienate his land, but alienations to persons who are not agriculturists are discouraged.

Tenants.

40. The normal condition of Burman agriculturists is that of a peasant proprietor, but a considerable and growing class of tenants exists in Lower Burma. This class is recruited in part from persons who have formerly been land-holders, have run into debt, and have in consequence had to part with their rights in their holdings and occupy them as tenants. Other tenants, particularly in the delta of the Irrawaddy, are immigrants from Upper Burma and young men setting up house. Although a precise estimate cannot be made of the extent to which land is being year after year transferred from its original owners to their creditors, it is certain that such transfers have for some years been frequent in the neighbourhood of large trading centres, and that the area of land cultivated by persons in the condition of tenants, who have no statutory rights and pay rent to middlemen, is on the increase. The area let to tenants is now over one-fifth of the total occupied area and the average rent per acre of paddy-land is as high as Rs. 8. Rent is mostly paid in produce and rebates are usually but not invariably allowed in case of severe damage to the crops. About one-sixth of the cultivated land is held by non-agriculturists, of whom three-fifths do not live near their lands. The increase in this class has been caused by the need of capital to open out the country, and during the last decade the extension of cultivation has been rapid. The average purchase price of an acre of paddy-land is now Rs. 24 per acre. The average annual rental is thus one-third of the price of the land.

The position of tenants in Lower Burma may be summed up in the statement that there is no fixity of tenure and no limit to rents, but that the condition of tenants is on the whole prosperous. The land is rich, tenants derive an ample living from the produce after paying rent, and there is as yet no very strongly marked tendency to the formation of a permanent tenant class. Nevertheless, of late years the increase in land speculation has raised rents, and in certain tracts Settlement Officers report that rack rents are imposed. It is to create a class of protected tenants that a Tenancy Bill is now under consideration.

Town and village lands.

41. Rights over land in towns and villages are now regulated under the provisions of the Lower Burma Town and Village Lands Act, IV of 1898. The rights allowed under that Act are similar to those given over agricultural land.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

But in the scheduled towns of Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab, Bassein and Prome the acquisition of rights is governed by rules of long standing which have been continued in force. In the last three towns any person is deemed a landholder who can prove continuous possession from some 30 to 50 years ago up to the passing of this Act. In these towns the registration of changes of title is compulsory.

Tenures of Land (Upper Burma).

Tenures of land.

42. The law which regulates tenures of land in Upper Burma is the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, No. III of 1889. The primary division of all lands in Upper Burma is into—

(*a*) State land; (*b*) Non-State land.

State land.

43. "State land" is described in section 23 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation. It means land belonging to, or at the disposal of, the State and includes the following :—

(*a*) Land hitherto termed royal land, *i.e.*, lands customarily known as *Ledaw, Ayadaw, Lamaingmye* (land cultivated by Royal slaves), and other lands similarly styled up to the coming in force (13th July 1899) of the Land and Revenue Regulation.

(*b*) Land held on condition of rendering public service or as an appanage to, or emolument of, a public office, that is to say, land held at the time of the coming in force of the Regulation (13th July 1889) by persons who actually or nominally rendered or were liable to render service to the King, and to whom the land had been assigned as remuneration for such actual or nominal service. This category includes land held under a variety of tenures, of which the following are the principal :—

Ahmudan-sa land, of which the produce is enjoyed by persons who had been foot-soldiers or artillery-men of the King or by the descendants of such persons; by pages of the King or their descendants; by the King's boatmen, litter-carriers, betel-carriers and other menials or their descendants and so forth.

Si-sa land, of which the produce is enjoyed by horse-soldiers of the King or their descendants.

Thugyi-sa land, of which the produce is enjoyed by thugyis (revenue collectors) or their descendants.

Wun-sa land, of which the produce is enjoyed by persons who had been *Wuns* (District Governors) in the King's time or by their descendants.

Min-mye land, assigned for life or for lives or for a period, to members of the Royal Family.

(*c*) Islands and alluvial formations in rivers, *i.e.*, lands liable to periodical change by the action of the river.

(*d*) Waste land and land included within reserved or village forests, by which is meant all land which had never, up to the time of the coming in force of the Regulation, *i.e.*, up the 13th July 1889, been under cultivation except—

(i) sites and enclosures of pagodas, monasteries, other religious buildings and schools;

(ii) sites and enclosures of dwelling-houses in towns and villages.

(*e*) Land which had been under cultivation but had been abandoned, and to the ownership of which no claim was preferred within two years from the coming in force of the Regulation, *i.e.*, up to 13th July 1891.

(*f*) *Athi* or *asu* lands, or village communal lands, which are periodically distributable or distributed by the officer in the village who represents the State.

In the case of land coming under heads (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) the British Government has simply assumed the rights enjoyed by the Burmese Kings. In the case of land coming under heads (*d*) and (*e*) it has done more than this. The Kings of Burma were not ordinarily in a position to assert an effective claim over waste land brought under cultivation; speaking generally, any person was at liberty to till waste land, and, on bringing it under cultivation, he acquired rights over it which in time became ancestral (*bobabaing*) and heritable and resembled in other ways those of private ownership. But outright sales of lands were rare and contrary to custom, and private or exclusive proprietary rights could not be acquired over lands in the large tracts of country in which the ancient *athi* or village communal tenures survived. The British Government has, under the Regulation of 1889, declared itself the owner of all waste land and no such land may be cultivated except in accordance with rules under the Regulation. These rules provide for the grant of leases of waste land for any period not exceeding 30 years and for the grant of permits to occupy such land temporarily. Cultivators wishing to take up waste land are at liberty to adopt either of these methods of acquisition. The rules, which are modelled on the rules in force in Lower Burma, provide for the levy of revenue on areas leased and occupied, and for the temporary exemption from revenue of areas which have to be cleared of forest growth, shrubs or grass before they can yield a crop. Leases have not, however, become popular in Upper Burma, and waste land is cleared and occupied without title.

Non-State land.

44. Non-State land has not been defined and its incidents—other than liability to the payment of land revenue—have not been authoritatively described. It is land other than State land and has been held to include—

(i) *dama-u-gya* land, *i. e.*, lands which were cleared by persons before the 13th July 1899 and are still in the possession of these persons;

(ii) *bobabaing* lands, *i. e.*, lands which were cleared before the Regulation came into force, *i. e.*, before the 13th July 1889, and are now in possession of the descendants of the persons who cleared them, or of persons who obtained them for valuable consideration from those who cleared them, or from their descendants.

(iii) lands of which the ownership had been granted by written orders of the King, or has been granted since annexation under a written instrument by, or by order of, the Local Government; such lands would be considered to be *bobabaing*.

Tenants.

45. All lands, whether State or other than State, are subject to the payment of land revenue to the Government. This land revenue is assessed at rates in kind or money which are fixed on classes of soil or classes of crops. The tenants of land in Upper Burma may be renting either State land from a State land occupant or non-State land. Rents and tenancies, except in the irrigated tracts of Mandalay and Kyauksè districts, are ruled by custom, and rents may vary from one-tenth of the produce on very poor soil to one-half the produce on good paddy-land. The tenants thus usually get a rebate of rent when the crop is poor, and are usually in as favourable circumstances as the small peasant proprietor. With the exception of the *thugaungs* in Salin subdivision, of the *ex*-King's relations and ministers in Mandalay, Kyauksè and Sagaing, and of the old Burmese officials of the former *régime*, the landlords of Upper Burma do not stand out as a class on a higher social scale than the tenants. Owing to the general poverty of the cultivators, and the absence of large areas of waste for cultivation, wealthy land-owners have perhaps more authority in the village than is the case in the lower province. It will probably be desirable to extend the protection to tenants, which will be afforded by the draft Tenancy Bill, to certain areas in Minbu and Mandalay. Elsewhere, as there is at present but little inducement to invest capital in the poorer land of Upper Burma, the proprietor of the soil usually farms the land himself.

Town lands.

46. Town lands in Upper Burma are administered under the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, No. III of 1889, and rules for the disposal of State waste lands in Railway towns and Civil stations which were published in 1899. With very few exception all town lands are State lands.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

General.

Tenure holdings.

47. According to the latest recorded statistics the number of separate holdings under each tenure in Lower and Upper Burma and the total areas held are as follows :—

Tenure.	Number of holdings.	Area in acres.
Lower Burma.		
Squatters, land-holders and grantees assessed at full rates.	1,247,801	7,448,119
Waste-land grants, either wholly or partly revenue-free, in perpetuity.	97	154,864
Upper Burma.		
State land	269,920	1,539,235
Non-State land	890,051	977,520
Total	2,407,869	10,099,738

The statistics of squatters, of persons who, by 12 years' continuous occupancy, have acquired the permanent right of use and occupancy of a land-holder, and of persons holding their land under deed of grant from Government are not separately recorded in Lower Burma. It may however be noted, that in exceptional cases only does the occupier who has acquired a land-holder's title take the necessary steps to have the title duly recorded. He is ordinarily content to continue in occupation merely as a squatter. The entries under waste-land grants refer to certain special grants of large areas which were issued on favourable terms as to revenue in order to encourage the spread of cultivation. The rules under which these grants were made are now obsolete.

The figures both for the number of holdings and area are approximate only for Upper Burma, as accurate information is not available for districts or tracts which have not been brought under supplementary survey and in which the assessment of the land is calculated on a share of the outturn.

Cadastral survey.

48. The system of survey adopted in the province is that of a connected theodolite exterior survey and a field-to-field interior survey. The country to be surveyed is first divided into large circuits or polygons. The geographical position of each polygon is ascertained with perfect precision and the included area carefully computed. Each of these large circuits or polygons is again subdivided into minor circuits or lesser polygons, the geographical position and area of each of which are determined with the same accuracy. Then within these minor polygons come the *kwins,* which in Burma correspond in many ways to the mauzas of Northern India. These *kwins* are the smallest polygons, rarely exceeding 1 to 1½ square miles in area. They are not private estates or properties as the Indian mauzas are, but simply village blocks of paddy-cultivation and waste of convenient size enclosed, as frequently as may be possible, within natural boundaries, and they are dealt with just in the same way as the larger polygons. Proceeding thus from the greater to the less, the margin of possible error is being constantly narrowed. The mathematically-ascertained area of the large circuit must be found to be equal to the total of the areas of the included smaller circuits; and until perfect agreement is obtained by repeated check processes, neither the larger nor the smaller areas are accepted; and so on down to the very unit of survey, which is the field. The field in Burma may at present be said to be a square or rectangular area of paddy or other cultivated land included within well-marked boundaries. Its area varies from 1 acre in the great alluvial plains of the lower delta to ¼ acre in the closely cultivated tracts of the Prome and Thayetmyo districts towards the apex of the delta. The aggregate of the field areas within each *kwin* must agree with the area of the *kwin* polygon, and until this agreement is attained the areas of the fields are not accepted. It will thus be seen that the method of cadastral survey is calculated to guarantee scientific accuracy in every detail.

Supplementary Survey.

49. The land records department maintain the annual survey and assessment in the cadastrally surveyed districts, including those in which no regular settlement has yet been introduced. The changes and extensions in cultivation, ownership, topography, etc., are annually depicted on fresh copies of the *kwin* maps, and the assessment register records the area of each holding, with all changes and the assessment due at the rates fixed by settlement. The annual survey is needed *inter alia* for purposes of land-revenue assessment. Considerable areas of culturable waste are newly occupied from year to year either without title or with a permit or grant from Government, and these and other changes require to be resurveyed, as each individual holding is separately assessed annually on the area occupied and cultivated. Statistics are annually collected as to prices, sales, mortgages, crops, etc., and together with the annual crop measurement statistics furnish the Revision Settlement Officer with data for the resettlement of the acre rates, and are also an indication of the economic changes which are annually taking place. In addition the land records department furnish evidence as to grazing grounds and fisheries and measure all *pottas,* and the inspecting staff also check tax-tickets as a prevention against fraud on the part of the revenue collecting officials. Changes in cultivation and in fisheries and the abnormal demand for grants of land have been so pressing in recent years that it has been out of the power of the permanent staff in many *kwins* to annually effect more than an accurate assessment, and the changes of the survey have there been brought up to date, prior to revision of settlement, by special survey staffs under the direction of the inspecting and superintending officers.

System of settlement.

50. With the exception of the unsurveyed districts of Salween and Northern Arakan, mostly under *taungya* cultivation, and of Tavoy, Mergui, and parts of other districts surveyed under the direction of the provincial land records department, the original settlement of the cultivated land of Lower Burma was completed in the year 1901, and is now proceeding in the locally surveyed areas in the delta, where the extensions of cultivation have been most rapid. The system of settlement consists in acre rates, based on the ascertained productiveness of the chief varieties of soil and crops, the local price of the produce averaged over a term of years, and the cost of cultivation; the rates thus deduced are compared with the rents paid by tenants and modified by other circumstances, such as the standard of living, indebtedness, etc., of the agriculturist. The rates remain fixed per acre for a term of years, ordinarily 15, but assessments annually vary with the increase or decrease in the size of the holding. At the original settlement the area of each holding, field by field, as it exists at the time of settlement, the name of the owner or occupant, the number of years he has been in possession, and the names of the tenants and mortgagees, with the rents paid or the amount of the incumbrance, have been recorded in the settlement registers prepared in duplicate, and this evidence is supported by the 16″ trace showing each field and its correct position, together with the external limits of each holding. Other topographical features, the area covered by culturable and unculturable waste, village sites, streams, roads, etc., are all entered, and the total area of the various plots checked and compared with the total area in the *kwin* as described in paragraph 48. The revision of the original settlement which was begun in 1897 has now been completed in five districts. The revision settlement is confined mainly to a revision of the assessment; the main assessment tracts of the original settlement are usually unaltered, but the classification of soil within them and the rates per acre may require revision. The rates are fixed after a consideration of the same factors as at the original settlement, supported by crop measurements and enquiries in every *kwin* or village. As in the original settlement, the acre rates fixed at revision are maintained for a term of years, usually fifteen.

Assessment of fallow land.

51. Until a few years ago it had been the custom in Burma that the cultivator should only pay the full assessment rate on the area actually cropped. He could leave as much of his holding as he liked uncultivated, and on such uncultivated part a merely nominal rate of assessment—2 annas per acre, a sort of quit-rent—was imposed, the cultivator, by payment of this quit-rent, retaining all

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his rights in the land. The land so left uncultivated is called fallow. As a matter of fact the term fallow is a misnomer. The land is never left in what would in England be known as open fallow. A so-called "fallow" field in Burma is a field which after the paddy upon it has been reaped is left untouched till the cultivator is inclined to plough it up again. It is never even ploughed up until its turn to yield a crop comes round. The usual reason for letting any land lie idle is that the cultivator is either unable or unwilling to cultivate it. The custom of levying a 2-anna rate on so-called fallows is still maintained, but in consequence of the growth of the value of land and of a landlord class the extent of its application has been somewhat curtailed and wealthy or non-resident landlords are not allowed the privilege of the reduced assessment. The rule which is now in force provides that the 2-anna rate shall be levied on the whole or any part of a holding which is left uncultivated either in order to allow the soil to recover from exhaustion or because the owner is prevented from causes beyond his control, such as death of cattle or illness or death in his family, from cultivating it. During the past few years the 2-anna rate has been assessed in certain specified *kwins* where the soil is too poor to work every year, without the necessity of a written application to any Revenue Officer. An assessment varying at the discretion of the Deputy Commissioner from 2 annas per acre to the normal cultivation rate is levied on land which is left uncultivated for grazing purposes or which has been generally sublet during the five preceding years, or which has been granted revenue-free for a term of years and has not been brought under cultivation within a reasonable period, or which has been a source of profit during the year of assessment.

Remissions.

52. The abatement on account of fallow is quite distinct in theory from abatements on account of remission, although in practice the two kinds of abatements necessarily often coincide. Remissions are granted in cases where crops have been wholly or partially destroyed by floods or drought or other cause beyond the cultivator's control. If the entire or nearly the entire crop on a holding has been destroyed, the whole revenue is remitted. If partial loss of crop is suffered, the remission is proportioned to the extent of the loss. No remission is, however, granted unless the loss of crops exceeds one-third of the estimated ordinary full crops of the holding.

System of Settlement and Survey (Upper Burma).

Settlement.

53. The system of survey in Upper Burma is practically the same as in the lower province.

54. The land revenue system of Upper Burma is still unsettled and is the subject of much discussion. This may be gathered from the description of non-State land given above in paragraph 44. However, some conclusions which seem final have been arrived at. For instance, in 1897 it was decided that only areas under matured crops should be liable to assessment and that rates should not be assessed on either failures or fallows; this important decision is still unshaken: it makes the revenue assessments in the central dry belt very variable or elastic, but it is still in the experimental stage. Again, Regulation No. V of 1901 eliminated the distinction between rent and revenue on State and non-State land respectively from the Upper Burma system and made all lands liable to the payment of land revenue. At the same time this Regulation directed that the rates of land revenue payable are to be taken into consideration when fixing the average rate at which *thathameda* tax is to be levied. This latter decision is, it may be observed, a most important departure from the old system of adjustment or exemption from *thathameda* which had been tried and found wanting. Settlement Officers, when proposing rates of land revenue which are fixed on classes of soil or on classes of crop throughout any district or part of a district, also propose reduced rates of *thathameda*, but the assessment of this latter tax, once its rate has been fixed on individual households within the village, is still left to the *thamadis* or assessors. Also the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council, may direct that in any district or part of a district

an abatement from the rates fixed on soil or crops shall be made before these rates are applied to the assessment of land other than State, and the amount of such abatement has usually been 25 per cent.

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Five districts in Upper Burma have been settled and two regular settlements are now in progress there. In other districts, so soon as the survey is finished and maps received, a land records staff is employed, the holdings in each *kwin* are marked and registered, and assessments at low rates on all lands along with a reduction in the rate of *thathameda* are introduced. The Upper Burma portion of Thayetmyo has been transferred to Lower Burma and the Lower Burma system of assessment introduced. One revision settlement party is now at work in the Kyauksè district. The periods for which fixed rates per acre have been imposed have been very short and have not hitherto exceeded 10 years in any district.

In Upper Burma the district is settled as a whole and not in tracts of a varying size as in Lower Burma. The Regular Settlement is timed to take three years in each district, but owing to the size of the districts or to the complexity of the work, it is seldom completed in less than four years. During this time, while conducting all the enquiries regarding agriculture and the economic position of the cultivators, the Settlement Officer measures typical crops in each *kwin* or village each year for three years. He thus has to prepare a record of rights and occupation, frame proposals for the assessment of land revenue and for reduction of the rate of *thathameda*. Holdings in Upper Burma are very small, frequently confined to a single field, the holdings of one man scattered, the soils and the crops numerous, while the uncertainty of the rainfall renders it difficult to form an idea of the average productiveness of the various soils and crops. For irrigated areas special water rates have to be proposed, and special claims for exemption considered. During the settlement a land records staff is engaged in keeping the survey and registration up to date, and on the completion of the settlement, this staff, increased where required, carries on the duty of survey and assessment.

Supplementary survey.

55. In Upper Burma the work of the land records department in its general features is the same as that in the lower province, but in its details is far more laborious and less technical. Owing to the system of assessment on the area under matured crop only, each field and cultivated portion of each field have to be shown for each holding in a field register; areas on which the crop has failed, areas irrigated, and the names of all the various crops field by field have to be entered in this register. The assessments follow the various harvest seasons; and though the winter harvest is the most important in some districts, the autumn and the hot-weather harvests are heavy, and in upland tracts the surveyor must visit the same holding twice in the year to record the matured crop area. The calculation of assessments, which are shown in a separate register, is further complicated by the different rates on soils, crops and State and non-State land. Less accuracy in survey, with the exception of highly rated tracts, is looked for than in Lower Burma, and the survey work is generally lighter. On the other hand the actual physical labour of visiting the fields, of writing the details in the registers, and of calculating the assessments at a great variety of rates for each harvest is far heavier.

Supplementary survey has been extended to all the districts in Upper Burma (except one) that have been cadastrally surveyed, and, owing to unexpected delays over regular settlements, summary settlements at acre rates have been imposed in two districts with the aid of the land records staff, and the seasonal assessments are carried out by them. Remissions of revenue are allowed on the same principle as in Lower Burma, but in districts where crops are precarious a liberal interpretation is put on the term "a matured crop" and the need for regular remissions tends to disappear. Suspensions of revenue are unknown and unnecessary in Burma. It may be seen that the system of land revenue assessments described above is eminently elastic; the acre rates are fixed for short periods only, and the assessments vary with the areas, crops and seasons.

I.—Physical and Political Geography.

56. The Civil divisions in Burma are indicated under the heading "Form of Administration." There are four divisions in Lower Burma and four in Upper Burma.

Lower Burma.

57. The four divisions in Lower Burma are Arakan, Pegu, Irrawaddy and Tenasserim. The Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions were formed in 1881 by the partition of the old Pegu division. The area of the Arakan division is 18,540 square miles and the population was 762,102 at the Census of 1901. The Arakan division is divided into four districts,—Northern Arakan, Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Sandoway. Northern Arakan or the Arakan Hill Tracts was separated from Akyab in 1871. It is inhabited by semi-barbarous but docile tribes, and the duties of the District Officer consist in the administration of these tribes under certain simple regulations which have been enacted for the purpose and in the protection of the inhabitants from raids by wild tribes from beyond the administrative frontier. The area of this tract is 5,233 square miles with a population of 20,682. The Akyab district, in which is situated the chief town of the division from which the district takes its name, is divided into three subdivisions and eight townships. The Kyaukpyu and Sandoway districts have no subdivisions, but are divided into five and three townships respectively. The Ramree subdivision of the Kyaukpyu district was abolished in 1900.

Pegu division.

58. The Pegu division has an area of 13,257 square miles with a population of 1,820,638. It is divided into five districts—Rangoon Town, the headquarters of the division, Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy and Prome. The Rangoon district was divided in 1879 into the Rangoon Town and Hanthawaddy districts and the latter was again divided in 1883 into the Hanthawaddy and Pegu districts. Rangoon Town is divided into two subdivisions and Hanthawaddy into three subdivisions and seven townships. The subdivisions in the Rangoon Town were formed in 1894 for the sake of administrative convenience. The Pegu district consists of two subdivisions and five townships. Tharrawaddy district, formerly a subdivision of the Henzada district, was formed in 1878. It consists of two subdivisions and five townships. The Prome district lies on both sides of the Irrawaddy river and consists of the Prome, Paungdè and Shwedaung subdivisions, which include seven townships.

Irrawaddy division.

59. The Irrawaddy division was formed in 1881 by the separation from the Pegu division of the four districts of Bassein, Thôngwa, Henzada and Thayetmyo. The last named district was transferred in 1893 to the Minbu division of Upper Burma, which was then known as the Southern division. The Myaungmya district was formed at the same time out of portions of the Bassein and Thôngwa districts. The latter district was originally constituted in 1875 of portions of the Bassein, Henzada and Hanthawaddy districts. It now consists of three subdivisions and seven townships. The Bassein district consists of two subdivisions and six townships. The new Myaungmya district consists of the Myaungmya and Wakèma subdivisions which are divided into four townships. The Henzada district has two subdivisions and six townships. The area of the Irrawaddy division is 13,440 square miles and its population is 1,663,669. The headquarters of the division are at Bassein.

Tenasserim division.

60. The Tenasserim division, with its headquarters at Moulmein, consists of the districts of Toungoo, Salween, Thatôn, Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui. Its area is 35,924 square miles with a population of 1,159,558. The Shwegyin district was abolished in 1895 and in the same year the Thatôn district was formed from part of the Amherst and Shwegyin districts. The rest of the Shwegyin district was divided between Pegu and Toungoo districts. In 1895 certain islands off the Tenasserim coast were incorporated in adjacent townships of the Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui districts. The Toungoo district was transferred from Pegu to the Tenasserim division in 1870. It consists of the subdivisions of Toungoo, Karen Hill Tracts and Shwegyin, which are divided into seven townships. The Salween district is a hilly tract lying on the borders of the Siamese province of Cheingmai or Zimmè. The new Thatôn district consists of the subdivisions of Kyaikto, Thatôn and Pa-an and six townships. The Moulmein subdivision of the

Amherst district, which had been a separate district for the purpose of Criminal Judicial Administration, was declared in 1898 to be a suibdvision of the Amherst district. This district now consists of the subdivisions of Moulmein, Kawkareik and Amherst, and of seven townships. Tavoy and Mergui districts consist of narrow strips of land bordering Siam on the east and the sea on the west. The former is divided into four townships and the latter into two subdivisions and five townships.

Upper Burma.

61. Upper Burma (exclusive of the Shan States) was divided by notification No. A (1), dated the 29th November 1886, into the Northern, Central, Southern and Eastern divisions. The names of these four divisions were changed in 1897 to Mandalay, Sagaing, Minbu and Meiktila respectively. The Mandalay division, including the Möng Mit subdivision, with headquarters at Mandalay, contains 29,373 square miles and a population of 777,338. It is divided into the five districts of Mandalay, Bhamo, Myitkyina, Katha and Ruby Mines. The old Bhamo district was divided, in 1895, into two, Bhamo and Myitkyina. In the same year the Shwebo district was transferred from the Mandalay to the Sagaing division. The Mandalay district consists of five subdivisions and seven townships. Bhamo contains two subdivisions and two townships. The new Myitkyina district consists of the subdivisions of Myitkyina and Mogaung and three townships. The number of subdivisions and townships in the Katha district was reduced in 1895 from four and ten to three and eight respectively. This district includes what was formerly the Shan State of Wuntho. The Ruby Mines district consists of the subdivision of Mogôk, Thabeikkyin and Möng Mit and five townships. The Möng Mit subdivision is a Shan State temporarily administered during the minority of the *Sawbwa* as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines district.

Mandalay division.

Sagaing division.

62. The Sagaing division contains the districts of Shwebo, Sagaing, Lower Chindwin and Upper Chindwin, and has an area of 30,038 square miles and a population of 1,000,483. The Ye-u district was abolished in 1895 and amalgamated with the Shwebo district, which was at the same time transferred to the Sagaing division. The Shwebo district consists of the subdivision of Shwebo, Kanbalu and Ye-u, and of nine townships. The Sagaing district was formed in 1888 by the amalgamation of the former Sagaing and Ava districts. It contains three subdivisions and six townships. The Upper and Lower Chindwin districts were formed in 1888 by dividing the former Chindwin district. The Lower Chindwin contains two subdivisions and five townships, and the Upper Chindwin four subdivisions and nine townships, including what was formerly the Shan State of Kalè. The headquarters of these districts are at Mônywa and Kindat respectively.

Minbu division.

63. The Minbu division is divided into the four districts of Thayetmyo Pakôkku, Minbu and Magwe. It has an area of 17,172 square miles and a population of 1,076,280. As already stated, the Thayetmyo district was, in 1893, transferred from the Irrawaddy division to this division. It consists of three subdivisions—Thayetmyo, Myedè and Minhla—which are subdivided into six townships. Of the three subdivisions Minhla alone is in Upper Burma. The Myingyan district was, in October 1893, transferred from the Minbu to the Meiktila division. In 1898 the eastern boundary of the Pakôkku district was demarcated and the Pakôkku Chin Hill Tract, which had hitherto been treated as a part of the district, was placed under a Superintendent, by whom it is administered under the Chin Hills Regulations, subject to the direct control of the Commissioner, Minbu Division. The Yawdwin subdivision was abolished in 1898 and the number of subdivisions and townships in the Pakôkku district was reduced from four to three and from ten to eight respectively. The Minbu district has two subdivisions and five townships; Magwe, two subdivisions and six townships.

Meiktila division.

64. The Meiktila division, with an area of 10,852 square miles and a population of 992,807, is divided into four districts—Kyauksè, Meiktila, Yamèthin and Myingyan. The Myingyan district was transferred in 1893 from the Minbu division to this division. The Pyinmana and Yamèthin districts were amalgamated in 1893, the former becoming a subdivision of the Yamèthin district. Kyauksè district has two subdivisions and three townships, Meiktila two subdivisions and four townships,

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Yamèthin two subdivisions and five townships, and Myingyan two subdivisions and six townships.

Shan States.

65. The Shan States have an area of 57,915 square miles and a population of 1,137,444. There are six States under the supervision of the Superintendent, Northern Shan States, and 37 under the Superintendent and Political Officer, Southern Shan States. In addition to the Northern and Southern Shan States, there are two States which are under the Commissioner, Mandalay Division, namely, Hkamti Lông on the north of the Myitkyina district and Mông Mit, which is temporarily administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines district. There are also two States, Sinkaling Hkamti and Hsawng Hsup, near Manipur under the supervision of the Commissioner, Sagaing division.

Chin Hills.

66. The area of the Chin Hills (exclusive of the Pakôkku Chin Hills) is 8,000 square miles and a population of 87,189. The Chin Hills, with the exception of the area known as the Pakôkku Chin Hills, are under the supervision of a Superintendent with headquarters at Falam. Tiddim and Haka are the headquarters of Assistant Superintendents, who are in charge of the Siyins and Sôktes and of the Haka tribes respectively.

Pakôkku Chin Hills.

67. The Pakôkku Chin Hills have an area of 2,250 square miles and a population of 13,116. The headquarters are at Kanpetlet, to which place they were removed in 1901.

General statistics.

68. A census of the province was taken during the early part of 1891. The greater portion of the country was enumerated synchronously on the night of the 1st March. The bulk of the area not synchronously dealt with (which included the Northern and Southern Shan States and the Chin Hills) had its population numbered during January and February of the same year. Karenni, the Pakôkku Chin Hills, and portions of the Kachin tracts in the Northern Shan States and in the districts of Bhamo, Myitkyina and the Upper Chindwin were treated in a special manner. As accurate an estimate as possible was made of their inhabitants during the early part of the year and was communicated on the 1st March to the Census Superintendent. With the exception of West Manglun and the trans-Salween Northern Shan States the whole of the province came to a greater or less degree within the scope of the operations.

69. The total population of the province thus obtained amounted to 10,490,624. The aggregate of the estimated areas was 127,011, so that the total of persons actually enumerated on the census schedules was 10,363,613. The area dealt with in 1901 was so much larger than that covered by the 1891 enumeration that a comparison of the 1901 with the 1891 figure (8,098,014) gives no idea whatever of the actual growth of the population of the province during the ten years immediately preceding the census. This can better be gathered from the following table which shows the population of (*a*) Burma proper, (*b*) Upper Burma, and (*c*) Lower Burma at the last two enumerations:—

Area.	Total, 1891.	Total, 1901.	Increase.	Percentage of increase.
Burma proper	7,722,053	9,252,875	1,530,822	19·8
Upper Burma	3,063,426	3,607,202	543,776	17·7
Lower Burma	4,658,627	5,645,673	987,046	21·1

The increase was common to all the districts of the province except Prome, Thayetmyo and Mandalay. Of the 10,490,624 persons enumerated, 5,342,033 were males and 5,148,591 were females, that is to say, for every thousand males there were 962 females. The proportion between the two sexes is the same as in 1891. The excess of males over females is almost wholly due to the preponderance of the male element among foreign immigrants and is confined for the most part to Lower Burma. For Burma proper the density of population per square mile was, in 1901, 55 as against 46 in 1891.

Towns and villages.

70. There are in Burma two cities, *i.e.*, towns of over 150,000 inhabitants. These are, Rangoon with a population of 234,881, and Mandalay with one of

183,816. Rangoon has increased considerably since 1891, when its inhabitants aggregated 180,324, but Mandalay, in common with a large number of other Upper Burma towns, exhibits a smaller total than ten years ago. One town, Moulmein, has a population of between 50,000 and 100,000, while there are five Urban areas which, though numbering less than 50,000, have more than 20,000 inhabitants. In all 9,500,686 persons were enumerated in rural and 989,938 in Urban areas. The rural population thus forms 90·6 per cent. of the total population of the province. Besides Rangoon and Mandalay there are 50 towns in Upper and Lower Burma, while the number of villages or hamlets in Burma proper, the Shan States and the Chin Hills is returned as 60,395. The average number of inhabitants per village is 157·3. This is considerably below the average of 1891, the diminution being due to the more liberal interpretation placed at the later Census on the term "village." I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

71. Buddhism was returned as the religion of 9,184,121, persons, *i.e.*, of 88·6 per cent. of the inhabitants of the province including the Shan States and the Chin Hills; Animism numbered 399,390 adherents. Had data regarding the religion of the "estimated" tracts been procurable, it would probably have been found that the total of Animists exceeded half a million. There were 339,446 Musalmans and 285,484 Hindus in the province on the 1st March 1901; while on the same date the total of Christians was 147,525. The aggregate of other religions including those of the Sikhs, the Jews, the Jains and the Parsis, was 7,647 only. Of these the Sikh religion claimed by far the largest number of followers. The above figures are for the province as a whole. The following table shows the proportion per ten thousand of each of the main religions in Burma proper in 1901 and indicates the percentage of increase that has taken place since 1891. **Religions.**

Religion.	1901.		Number in 1891.	Percentage of increase, 1891 to 1901.
	Number.	Proportion per 10,000.		
Buddhist	8,223,071	8,910	6,888,075	19
Animist	237,508	257	168,449	41
Musalman	337,083	365	253,031	33
Hindu	279,975	303	171,577	63
Christian	145,726	158	120,768	21
Others	6,539	7	3,660	79
Total ...	9,229,902	10,000	7,605,560	21

The largest percentage of increase is shown by the minor religions, the next largest by the Hindus. The increase among the Animists is more apparent than real.

72. The total of persons dependent upon pasture and agriculture in Burma on the 1st March 1901 was 6,947,945, or 67 per cent., of the total population of the province. The list of pastoral and agricultural occupations adopted for Census purposes includes certain avocations under the head of agricultural training and the like, that are not purely agricultural. A better idea of the extent to which agriculture is practised in the country can be obtained from the total of persons returned (*a*) as agricultural labourers, and (*b*) as land-holders and tenants with their dependents. Of these the former constituted 55·38 per cent. and the latter 6·92 per cent. of the total population of the province. What may be taken as the artizan section of the community numbered 1,923,084 actual workers and dependants and thus formed 18·5 per cent. of the population. The commercial classes aggregated 449,955, or 4·34 per cent., of the provincial aggregate. The learned and other professions supported 2·54 per cent. of the same total. In all 47,524 **Occupations.**

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individuals returned themselves as partially dependent for their living upon agriculture.

Indigenous races.

73. The following are the totals of the principal indigenous races dealt with at the census of 1901. The figures are for the whole of the province including the Shan States and the Chin Hills.

Burmese	6,508,682	Talaings	321,898
Karens	717,859	Taungthus	168,301
Arakanese	405,143	Shans	787,087
Kachins	64,405	Chins	179,292

The great bulk of the Kachins are residents of the estimated tracts and are not comprised in the above totals. The Chins, whose aggregate is indicated above, are exclusive of the tribes inhabiting the Pakôkku Chin Hills and of communities like the Kamis, the Anus and the Kyaws, who, though properly speaking Chins, are not ordinarily spoken of as such.

A general idea of the relative rate of increase or decrease in the principal indigenous races can be obtained from the following table, which gives the figures for 1891 and 1901 not for the whole province, but for the eight administrative divisions of Burma proper:—

Race.	Total, 1891.	Total, 1901.	Increase or decrease.	Percentage of increase or decrease.
Burmese	5,405,727	6,488,217	+ 1,082,490	+ 20·0
Arakanese	354,900	405,131	+ 50,231	+ 14·1
Karen	534,488	704,117	+ 169,629	+ 31·7
Talaing	467,884	321,898	— 145,986	— 31·2
Shan	178,271	237,918	+ 59,647	+ 33·5
Chin	80,922	95,497	+ 14,575	+ 18·0

The high rise in the case of the Shans is due to a certain extent to immigration into Burma from the Shan States. The rapid rate of increase among the Karens is noticeable. The decrease in the case of Talaings and the comparatively slow growth of the Arakanese is a sign of the process of absorption into the Burmese people that both these races are undergoing.

74. The races of Burma have been so amply described elsewhere that the following brief summary of our knowledge regarding their origin seems all that need be given here. The Talaings are the best known representatives of the earliest of the three known Indo-Chinese immigration waves—the Mon Annam—which descended upon what is now Burma, from a region corresponding more or less with what is now South-western China. Until recently it was believed that the Talaings were the only Mon-Annam people within the limits of Burma. Recent research has, however, shown that the Palaungs, the Was and the Riangs or Yin, wild communities inhabiting the north and east of the province, are almost certainly Mon-Annam tribes, which have been forced up into the hills by the pressure of later tides of immigration. The Talaings were up to the commencement of the historical period masters of the south of the province, but, like their ruder brethren in the north, they have had to fall back before the more strenuous on-rush of the younger races, and, being without the refuge of the hills, have been largely absorbed by their conquerors, the Burmese. The second of the principal Indo-Chinese waves was the Tibeto-Burman. To it belong the Tibetans, the Burmans (with their comparatively recent off-shoot the Arakanese), the Kachins in the north and north-east and the Chins in the western hills, and probably also a host of hill tribes, such as the Szis, the Lashis, the Marus, the Lisaws, the Akhas and the Lahus, who are found scattered over the uplands in the extreme north-east of Upper Burma, and in the north and east of the Shan States. In the case of the Burmans and the Chins the migratory instinct which brought them from the north has long since died out, but the Kachins are still a useful object lesson to the student who wishes to realize with what resistless force the prehistoric migration streams must have swept over the face of the land. The southward movement of the Kachin tribes must be a

phenomenon of comparatively recent development. Where the wanderings of the races are finally to terminate remains yet to be seen. The most modern of the three Indo-Chinese immigration waves is that of the Tai, which swept down the valleys of the Salween and the Mèkong to the east of Burma, to find its ultimate goal on the southern seaboard of Indo-China. To it belong the Siamese, the Laos, several of the hill tribes of French Indo-China, and in Burma the Shans, who, starting from the valley of the Shweli, have spread out during the past fourteen hundred years over the Shan States and across the northern areas of Upper Burma westwards to beyond the borders of Assam. In Burma proper the Shans have, during the past century, become to a great extent Burmanized, but in the Shan States they have succeeded in maintaining their identity unimpaired. Of the origin of the Karens, who now occupy the whole of the Eastern frontier of Lower Burma and are found in large quantities in the region of the delta, nothing definite is known. Their prehistoric home seems to have been, like that of the other Indo-Chinese races, in or in the neighbourhood of South-western China. It is beyond doubt that their presence in the country dates back from a very early period, though whether their arrival was before or after that of the Mon-Annams is by no means certain. They are the sole known relic of one of the less defined Indo-Chinese immigration waves and ethnically occupy a position of singular isolation. It seems probable that they must at some comparatively remote period have undergone an intimate fusion with some of the Mon-Annam tribes. On no other hypothesis is it possible to account for the genesis of the Taungthus, who, though speaking a language which has many affinities with, and has been looked upon as a dialect of Karen, claim a connection with the ruling class of Thatôn, who, from time immemorial, have been Talaings.

Indigenous languages.

75. The Linguistic Survey of India has shown that the indigenous languages of Burma belong to three sub-families of the Indo-Chinese language family, corresponding more or less to the three main immigration waves above referred to. They are the Tibeto-Burman sub-family, the Siamese-Chinese sub-family and the Mon-Annam sub-family. These sub-families may be divided into groups: the Tibeto-Burman into the Burmese, the Kachin and the Kuki-Chin groups; the Siamese-Chinese into the Tai and Karen, the Mon-Annam into the North Cambodian and the Wa-Palaung. The largest and most important group is the Burmese. It comprises Burmese, spoken by 7,006,495 persons at the time of the Census, Arakanese spoken by 383,400 persons, Akha by 21,175, Lahu or Muhsö by 16,732 and Kadu by 16,300 persons. The Kachin group consists of the various dialects of Kachin, returned at the Census as the speech of 65,570 persons in those areas which were regularly enumerated. The Kuki-Chin group embraces the numerous languages and dialects of the hill tribes on the western edge of Burma. No attempt was made at the Census to record the dialects of this group. The vernaculars used by the inhabitants of this hill region were in the bulk of cases returned as Chin, the only exception of importance being the speech of the Kamis of Northern Arakan. In all 175,037 persons gave Chin as the language habitually used by them. The aggregate of Kami-speaking folk was 24,389. Burmese-Shan, *i.e.*, the Shan which is spoken generally in the Shan States west of the Salween and in the northern portions of Burma proper, is the main representative of the Northern Tai sub-group of the Tai group in the province. It numbered 751,759 speakers at the Census. The Hkün and the Lü Shan of Kēngtūng have been classed as belonging together with Siamese to the Southern Tai sub-group of the Tai group. There were 42,160 speakers of Hkün and 19,380 of Lü returned as such at the Census. The various forms of Karen, with the vernaculars of Karenni and Taungthu go to make up the Karen group. Sgau and Pwo are the two main dialects of Karen, but the enumerated at the Census did not ordinarily state which of the two forms they spoke and no attempt to record them separately could be made. In all 711,408 persons returned Karen as the language ordinarily used by them. Taungthu claimed 160,436 speakers. Talaing is the sole representative of the North Cambodian group of the Mon-Annam sub-family. It was spoken by 155,100 people on the 1st March 1901. Of the Wa-Palaung group of the same sub-family Palaung with 50,504 speakers is

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numerically most strongly represented. Wa was spoken by only 7,667 persons, the majority of the Wa-speaking tribes being residents of the areas that were omitted from the Census operations. Tai Loi, a dialect of Wa, was spoken by 12,762 hill-dwellers in Kēngtūng.

Non-indigenous languages.

The following are the totals for the more important non-indigenous languages spoken in the province :—

English	...	18,500	Telugu	...	96,601
Tamil	...	99,576	Hindustani	...	95,122
Bengali	...	204,973	Chinese	...	47,444

Changes in the Administration.

76. The Hon'ble Sir Frederic Fryer, K.C.S.I., held charge of the administration throughout the period under report.

77. The number of divisions and districts remained the same as last year. The Kangyidaung township of the Bassein district was abolished, the area forming it being incorporated with the Bassein township. The Kyauktan subdivision of the Hanthawaddy district was reconstituted and divided into three townships, namely, the Kyauktan, Thôngwa and Thabyegan townships. The Sagaing and Sadaung townships of the Sagaing district were amalgamated into one, the new township being called the Sagaing township. The Dayègaung township of the Kyauksè district was abolished, the district itself being reconstituted into three subdivisions and three townships. The headquarters of the Tagaung subdivision of the Ruby Mines district was transferred to Thabeikkyin and the name of the subdivision was altered from Tagaung to Thabeikkyin. The designations of one subdivision and five townships of the Shwebo district were changed during the year. The Malè township of the Shwebo district was abolished, part of its area being added to the Kin-u township and the remainder to the Kanbalu township, while seven villages belonging to the last-named township were transferred to the Kyunhla township. The boundary between the Kyauksè district and the Shan State of Lawk Sawk was refixed, as were also the boundaries between the Bhamo and Myitkyina and the Katha and Myitkyina districts. The Athôk circle of the Kyaunggôn township, Bassein district, was transferred to the Yegyi township of the same district. The Wekauk circle was excluded from the Uyu and included in the Legayaing township of the Upper Chindwin district. The area known as the Pyawbwè *kwin* of the Udaung circle was transferred from the Madaya to the Patheingyi township of the Mandalay district.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Southern Shan States.

78. The Southern Shan States were tranquil and prosperous during the year. The principal event of the year was the holding of a darbar by His Excellency the Viceroy at Mandalay. The darbar was attended by 30 Chiefs. Frontier relations with the French and Siamese on the Kēngtūng border were satisfactory, but trade was impeded by disturbances in Kēnhūng.

Administration of justice.

79. There was little crime of a serious character during the year. The States were remarkably free from crimes of violence. Good work was done in the Central division in breaking up a gang of cattle thieves. The *Civil Justice Order,* which was introduced last year, came into operation during the year of report. The Order has recently been amended so as to provide for the institution of suits in States in which the cause of action arose.

Revenue and general.

80. The season was favourable except in Karenni and the Myelat, where the rains were unseasonable and the rice-crop poor. Tribute was punctually paid on the whole. A large area of forest was explored by the Divisional Forest Officer in the State of Kēngtūng. Throughout the States the people as well as their rulers took an interest in improvements to roads and bridges. There was a slight decrease in trade with Burma, which was counterbalanced by an increase in the trade with Siam.

Northern Shan States.

81. His Excellency the Viceroy held a darbar at Lasmo : the beginning of December, which was attended by all the Northern Shan Chiefs. An important

incident in the history of the year was the settlement of frontier cases with the Sub-Prefect of Têngyüeh. Under the agreement made with him compensation will be paid to persons who have suffered from raids across the Möngmau border during the last few years. It is also satisfactory that a settlement of cases on the Chefang frontier was arranged with the Chefang *Sawbwa*. The peace of the Northern Shan States was undisturbed throughout the year. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

82. The State of Hsipaw was prosperous during the year. The effect of the opening of the railway was apparent in the increase of the town of Hsipaw and in the movement of people towards the railway line. The government of Hsipaw was not satisfactory owing to the illnesses of the *Sawbwa* and of Saw Hke and to other causes. The sub-States were well governed. In Tawngpeng the *Sawbwa* was detected in an attempt to raise money by interference with freedom of trade. The *Sawbwa* of North Hsenwi failed to arrest the offenders in a serious dacoity which took place in his State. The other States of the Northern charge were prosperous and call for no special remark. **Individual States.**

83. The Kachin tracts of the Northern Shan States were undisturbed during the year. Throughout the rest of the States there was little crime. There was a large increase in civil judicial work in Lashio owing to the opening of the railway. The season was favourable. Efforts were made to introduce a number of new staples, some of which appear to have a fair prospect of success. The financial administration of Hsipaw was not satisfactory. The revenue diminished, salaries of State officials remained unpaid, and the State was in debt at the end of the year. On the other hand, praiseworthy energy was shown in the execution of public works. The financial administration of the other States does not call for remark. Much good work in road and bridge making was done in Hsipaw and in North and South Hsenwi. There was a considerable increase in trade, due in great measure to the opening of the railway. **General.**

84. Möngmit continued to be administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines district. The State was generally prosperous, but the revenue from rice-land diminished owing to contraction of cultivation through scarcity of plough cattle. The Kachin tracts of the State were satisfactorily administered. The States of Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkampti were tranquil and prosperous. **States under the control of Commissioners.**

85. The record of the Chin Hills proper during the year was peaceful and progressive. The Chins showed a growing inclination to visit the plains for trading purposes, and a general acquiescence in disarmament. They were also willing to avail themselves of the medical and educational assistance offered to them. **The Chin Hills.**

The village of Sagyillain was punished for the exaction of unauthorised dues from households which were claimed as slaves. With the exception of a raid committed by the Losow villagers, intertribal feuds were submitted to the decision of the Superintendent and his Assistants. The number of civil suits filed by Chins showed a marked increase. The decrease in the number of criminal cases and the promptitude with which tribute was paid furnished convincing indications of material progress.

Visits were exchanged between officers of the Chin and Lushai Hills. The Falam-Aijal road was finished, and will facilitate the administration of the border tribes. The co-operation of the Chiefs in road-making was readily secured, and the passage of Lushai traders through the Hills to Burma was undisturbed.

In the Upper Chindwin district a blockade was ordered against the Peya Chins as a punishment for cattle-thefts committed in administered territory. The blockade, while securing the peace of the frontier during the year, failed in its object owing to the ability of the Chins to obtain their salt from Manipur territory, where no effective blockade appears to have been established. The record of the Arakan Hill Tracts during the year was uneventful.

86. In the Pakôkku Chin Hills the removal of the headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent to Kanpetlet on Mount Victoria, the substitution of Ghurkas for plainsmen in the garrison, and the increase of the Chin Police were the chief events of the year. **The Pakokku Chin Hills.**

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The Kachin Hills.

87. In the Kachin Hills the year was unusually eventful. The settlement of the border cases of past years, the unrest on the border occasioned by a rising of Yawyins, a turbulent Kachin tribe inhabiting the Burma-China border in the extreme north, and the development of our frontier defences, furnished ample employment for officers in the Bhamo and Myitkyina districts. Violent crimes showed a satisfactory decrease. Some assistance was given by the Chinese authorities in the arrest of offenders for crimes committed in the Bhamo district. *Thathameda* was collected with reasonable promptitude. Opium smuggling continued to be rife. The question of the development of frontier trade received much attention during the year. A station of the Imperial Customs was opened at Têngyüeh with a European officer in charge, and the tolls and taxes on trade were regularized and reduced.

Condition of the people.

General condition.

88. A steady improvement has taken place in the condition of the people during recent years. According to the census of 1901, some 67 per cent. of the total population of the province is directly dependent upon agriculture; in Lower Burma there has recently been a continued succession of good harvests, and in Upper Burma, which includes the dry zone where crops are most precarious, there has been no general failure in the harvest since 1896-97. In that year the early rains failed in three districts, and this failure succeeding a scanty yield in the previous year resulted in temporary scarcity. It may, however, be noted that at no time were more than 18,000 people employed on famine works. There has at the same time been a considerable advance in the market price of produce. Rice covers over two-thirds of the cropped area in the whole of Burma, and in Lower Burma alone forms over 90 per cent. of the total. The demand caused by the scarcity in India proper has led, among other causes, to an improvement of not less than 10 per cent. in the export price when compared with the figures of ten years ago, and the market rate of other produce has risen in sympathy.

Standard of living and indebtedness.

89. With good harvests and better markets the cultivator has been able both to improve his standard of living and to bring under cultivation large areas of culturable waste. In Lower Burma particularly a larger expenditure is seen on luxuries and social ceremonies, and peasant proprietors take advantage of the growth in their profits to employ more hired labour, natives of India being frequently engaged. The census figures show an increase of some 20 per cent. in the population of Burma proper since 1891, and the cropped area has grown at more than double this rate, and probably, after allowance for more accurate surveys at not much less than 53 per cent. during this period. In other words, the area of cultivation has increased by one-fourth per head of the total population. A large area of culturable waste still awaits deve lopment in many districts. As shown by by the large and increasing exports of rice, the food-supply is far in excess of the needs of the present population.

Wages.

90. The wages of agricultural labourers are largely fixed by custom and are paid in kind. They may be said to vary from 4 annas to 12 annas a day in addition to food. For other labour the rates average from 5 annas in the poorest parts of Upper Burma to over 9 annas per day in Lower Burma, and tend to rise rather than fall. Statistics show in debtedness of agriculturists to be on the increase, but this is no indication of poverty, and has resulted from the greater facilities for borrowing and from the Burman's want of foresight and tendency to extravagance and speculation. The growth in the rice-milling trade needed to cope with the larger outturn, and the development of the teak trade and of the Burma oil-fields have also assisted, apart from agriculture, in the improved demand for labour and higher wages obtained.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realization of the Revenue.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report of Burma for the fifteen months ending 30th June 1902.

Land Records Administration Report for the fifteen months ending 30th June 1902.

Eighteenth issue Agricultural Statistics of India for years 1897-98 to 1901-02. Part I, Tables V, VI and VII, A and B.

Amounts recovered and outstanding.

91. The land revenue proper assessed between the 1st April 1901 and the 30th June 1902 (the period covered by the latest Provincial Land Revenue Administration Report, which will deal in future with the agricultural and not the financial year) amounted to Rs. 1,96,95,318, of which all except Rs. 52,228 had been either paid into the treasury or remitted before the close of the period. In the previous year a sum of Rs. 13,324 was outstanding on the 30th June 1901 on account of assessments made during the financial year ending 31st March 1901. A small separate water-rate assessment collected in five Upper Burma districts and amounting to Rs. 44,564 had all been cleared off except Rs. 30; during the 15 months under review there were no outstandings on account of capitation-tax in Lower Burma, on an assessment of Rs. 46,78,961, and of Rs. 51,78,552, *thathameda* assessed in Upper Burma, Rs. 73,800 had been remitted and the balance except a small sum of Rs. 1,880 paid in before the 30th June. The fishery revenue amounted in all to Rs. 25,53,032, of which Rs. 2,968 remained to be recovered when the year's accounts were closed. Under *thathameda* and fishery revenue, the outstandings were slightly larger than on the corresponding date in the previous year.

Coercive processes.

92. The total amount of land revenue of all kinds, for which proceedings were taken against defaulters, amounted to Rs. 8,27,479, of which Rs. 7,74,630 were eventually recovered. In the financial year 1900-01 the amount under recovery was Rs. 6,29,654 and the sum realized Rs. 4,96,377. The period now under review includes, however, both the financial year 1901-02 and the three months April to June 1902 which immediately follow the main land revenue assessment, when most action is being taken for the recovery of arrears, so that the figures do not readily admit of comparison. For the recovery of the arrears abovementioned 37,501 notices were issued to defaulters by the Revenue Courts on the application of the village headman or other revenue collector; in 17,556 cases warrants of arrest and in 16,542 cases warrants for the attachment of property were granted. There were 9,331 persons arrested, of whom 79 were committed to jail against 39 in 1900-01. In 1,332 instances property was sold as compared with 1,214 sales in the previous year. The great bulk of the outstandings was finally realized and as the total revenue under recovery amounted to some 3½ crores of rupees, nearly all of which was collected in small amounts, the coercive processes were comparatively few and the revenue was, in fact, collected ordinarily with no difficulty. The obstruction by natives of India to the collection of capitation-tax in the Arakan division led to 33 out of the total number of 79 committals to jail.

Surveys.

Survey of India.

93. During the year ending the 30th June 1902 the demarcation of 138 square miles in preparation for survey was carried out in Thayetmyo district, and the demarcation of the remainder of the Pakôkku township (367 square miles) and of 511 square miles of the Myaing township, Pakôkku district, were completed. Traverse surveys of 818 square miles in Pakôkku district, of 10 square miles in Sandoway, and 135 square miles in Kyaukpyu district and the field-to-field cadastral survey of 516 square miles in the Lower Chindwin district and 110 square miles in Sandoway district were undertaken by the Survey of India within the year. In parts of the Lower Chindwin district the area surveyed is mostly jungle

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at present and it has been decided to postpone the printing of the cadastral maps until they are required by the extension of cultivation.

Survey by local parties.

94. Revision field-to-field surveys were completed by parties under the control of the Land Records Department of 167 square miles in Hanthawaddy district, 280 square miles in Thôngwa district, and 307 square miles in Myaungmya district in the year. These areas were mostly uncultivated at the time of original survey and have been rapidly cleared during recent years. Special surveys of some 85 square miles in Myaungmya district, of 46 square miles in Kyauksè district, and 44 square miles in Meiktila district with other less important areas were carried out in order to complete or bring up to date the supplementary survey maps. Small parties were employed in the demarcation and survey of the leased fisheries in the Pegu, Myaungmya, and Bassein districts in accordance with the proposals made by Captain Maxwell in his recent report on the delta fisheries. Surveyors also needed to be appointed to measure waste-lands for which grants have been applied for in the Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Myaungmya and certain other districts, as applications were too numerous to permit of their being dealt with by the permanent survey staff.

Settlements.

Original settlements.

95. The original settlement of the Lower Burma portion of Thayetmyo district, of the Bawni circle, Pegu district, and of 266 square miles previously unsettled in Henzada district were completed during the year and revised rates have been notified from 1st July 1902. The amended rates are estimated to yield an increase of Rs. 34,000 roughly in the Thayetmyo and Pegu districts and of Rs. 22,000 in Henzada. The settlements of Magwe and Shwebo districts in Upper Burma were under progress and will shortly approach completion. Settlement work in Yamèthin district, other than the determination of tenures, was completed during the year, but the Settlement Officer's proposals have not yet come before the Local Government. Revised rates based on summary settlements were introduced during the year into Myingyan and part of the Lower Chindwin districts, and a summary settlement of two other townships of the Lower Chindwin district and of part of the Upper Chindwin district were being carried out during the year. This practically completes the settlement, regular or summary, of the area which has so far been cadastrally surveyed in Upper Burma.

Revision settlements.

96. The revision settlement of the settled areas in Hanthawaddy, Prome and Henzada districts was completed during the year, and a part of Tharrawaddy district was also dealt with. The revised rates, which were notified from 1st July 1902, are estimated to yield an increase of some Rs. 75,000 annually in Hanthawaddy, of nearly two lakhs in Tharrawaddy, of about a lakh in Prome and of Rs. 1,18,000 in Henzada. Revision settlement is now in progress in the remainder of the Tharrawaddy district and has commenced in the Akyab district.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

97. The area under supplementray survey increased from 29,870 square miles in 1900-01 to 30,720 square miles in the year under review. These figures exclude areas which have been cadastrally surveyed in five districts in Upper Burma, but in which settlement operations have not yet been completed, and the Land Records staff is not fully employed in the annual assessment of the land and the preparation of records and statistics. The increase in area is due to the area settled in Toungoo district in 1899-1900 having come under supplementary survey. With this addition practically all large blocks of cultivation in Lower Burma are now under supplementary survey. The occupied area dealt with by the

Land Records Staff.

Land Records staff has increased, when compared with the previous year's figures from 8,452,202 acres to 8,858,716 acres, the area under cultivation from 7,534,892 acres to 7,830,852 acres, and the area under assessment from 7,802,588 acres to 8,119,646 acres. The strength of the staff has been raised from 102 Inspectors and 1,030 Surveyors to 105 Inspectors and 1,058 Surveyors, and the cost of the department has fallen slightly from 1·441 annas to 1·368 annas per acre of area occupied and from 4·12 to 3·98 per cent. of revenue assessed. Unless some simpler methods can be devised, and efforts in this direction have not been successful

hitherto, the incidence of the cost of establishment on cultivated area and revenue will tend to increase as supplementary survey is extended to the poorer districts of Upper Burma.

Assessment rolls.

98. The land revenue assessment-rolls were, with minor exceptions, punctually prepared and submitted, and both the office and field work of the staff was frequently inspected and found to be generally satisfactory. Special surveyors have been needed where rapid extensions of cultivation have necessitated revisions in the maps to an extent beyond the scope of the regular surveyors. There were 558 pupils in the Government Survey schools during the year against 538 pupils in the previous year. Four of the 21 schools have been closed, as the pupils can attend schools in neighbouring districts without difficulty, and the number of passed students tends to exceed the demands of the department. The cost of the schools amounted during the year to Rs. 42,826 and the income to Rs. 8,120 as compared with a cost of Rs. 44,376 and income of Rs. 7,161 in the previous year.

Survey Schools.

Transfers of land

99. According to the Land Records statistics the total area of land which changed hands by sale in Lower Burma within the area under supplementary survey amounted in the year to 421,417 acres, an increase of 12,386 acres on the sales of the previous year. The area mortgaged amounted to 278,720 acres or 81,187 acres more than in 1900-01, and the total area under mortgage at the close of the year is given as 590,784 acres, which is 127,383 acres more than in the preceding year. The growth in sales in really somewhat larger than shown above, and the increase in mortgages not so great, as a number of transactions in Thôngwa district which were in reality mortgages, but which were incorrectly reported as sales by the parties were recorded as such in the registers in earlier years whereas similar transactions were properly entered as mortgages in the year under review. It is a common practice with money-lenders to require mortgages to be recorded as sales in order to effect a mutation of names in the registers and thereby protect their interest in the land. The increase in sales and mortgage is chiefly confined to the rich delta districts, and is to be explained by the greater demand for land by Upper Burmans, natives of India and the local cultivators in consequence of the good seasons of late years, by the greater readiness of money-lenders to advance loans on what has become a more valuable security and also to a temporary pressure arising from the extensive damage caused to the harvested crops by the rain in February 1901. The average rate per acre at which land was sold rose to Rs. 27, a considerable increase over last year.

100. Statistics were recorded for eight districts in Upper Burma, in three of these, Sagaing, Yamèthin, and Myingyan, for the first time. Sales and mortgages are shown to have increased in Kyauksè and Mandalay districts. The increase in Kyauksè is said to have been partly due to the poor harvest and in Mandalay the assessment of non-State land to acre rates is reported to have led to the transfer of the land from absentee landlords to *bonâ fide* cultivators. The value per acre at which State land was sold has fallen in consequence of the prohibition of transfer to non-agriculurists.

Waste Land.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

101. The total area of culturable waste for which grants in accordance with the rules under the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Act were given during the period from 1st April 1901 to 30th June 1902 amounted in all to 84,814 acres as compared with 43,443 acres granted during the financial year 1900-01. The longer period under consideration is one of the explanations of the increased area given out as a large number of the deeds issue towards the close of the open season from April to June. There were 15,053 applications for grants pending at the beginning of the period under review; 21,319 fresh applications were made during the year and 19,125 disposed of, leaving 17,247 still pending. A special staff to deal with applications was appointed in Pegu district. In Thôngwa district the area granted amounted to 17,784 acres and in Akyab, Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Myaungmya, Toungoo and Thatôn districts exceeded 5,000 acres. The waste area leased in Upper Burma in accordance with the rules under the Upper

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Burma Land and Revenue Regulation amounted to 14,285 acres. Leases are not much sought after, as all the best land is at present under cultivation. The Mandalay and Shwebo canals now under construction will add materially to the culturable area.

The above figures represent a small portion only of the total area brought under cultivation during the year, as the general practice is to clear and cultivate waste-land and continue in occupation merely with squatter's rights.

Revenue-free grants.

102. Small areas, amounting in all to 263·34 acres, were granted revenue-free for religious and public purposes in the province. The more important were grants of 19·33 acres to the leper asylums in Mandalay and of 8·85 acres to the American Baptist Mission for a school in the Bhamo district.

Government Estates and Ward's Estates.

103. There are no such estates at present in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Land holders.

104. In the area under supplementary survey in Lower Burma, for which the necessary statistics are available, 5,709,249 acres are said to be held by agriculturists, 446,658 acres by resident non-agriculturists, and 776,067 acres by non-resident non-agriculturists. The Hanthawaddy, Thôngwa and Akyab districts contain three-fifths of the area held by resident non-agriculturists and eight-thirteenths of the area held by non-residents, and the most noticeable increases this year under these tenures are in the two former districts and in Thatôn district. The figures are possibly somewhat in excess of the actual area held by non-cultivating landowners, for, as noted above, mortgages of land are frequently recorded as sales.

Tenants.

105. The area sublet by the owners or occupiers amounted to 1,831,319 acres as compared with 1,684,862 acres in the previous year. Twelve per cent. of the tenants have occupied the land for five years or more, long-term tenants being most numerous in the Akyab and Henzada districts. The new tenants are in most districts either Upper Burmans or natives of India. The average rent is calculated to amount to Rs. 7·73 per acre, which is slightly higher than in the previous year. Rents are ordinarily paid in kind and not in cash, and there appears to have been no general tendency to vary the rates. In the eight districts under supplementary survey in Upper Burma, the occupiers of State-land and owners of non-State land are mainly agriculturists so far as present statistics show. The proportion of non-agriculturists is largest in Minbu and Mandalay districts, where the areas so held amount to 25 per cent. and 18 per cent. respectively of the total occupied area. The area rented by owners or occupiers to tenants was largest in Myingyan (59,260 acres), Yamèthin (26,501 acres), Sagaing (16,346 acres), and Mandalay (14,088 acres). The figures for the three former districts are recorded for the first time, and the introduction of the assessment of non-State land in Myingyan and Yamèthin districts may lead to modification of tenancies. In Mandalay district 86 per cent. of the non-State land was rented at an average rate of Rs. 4·72 per acre which is slightly less than in the previous year, and 14 per cent. only of State land was sub-let at an average rent of Rs. 7·47 per acre.

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REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1901.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1901.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1901.
Reports on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1901.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1901.
Triennial Report on the Registration Department in Burma for the years 1899-1900 to 1901-02.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1901-02.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year 1901-02.
Report on Government steamers, vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1901-02.
Seventh Issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1901-02 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Constitution of Local Council.

106. By a Proclamation issued by the Governor-General in Council on the 9th April 1897 under section 49 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, the territories for the time being under the administration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma were constituted a province, to which the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, touching the making of laws and regulations for the peace and good government of the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay, should be applicable; and the Chief Commissioner of Burma for the time being, Sir Frederic William Richards Fryer, K.C.S.I., of the Indian Civil Service, was appointed the first Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, with all the powers and authority incident to such office. By the same Proclamation the first day of May 1897 was specified as the date from which these provisions should take effect, and the number of Councillors whom the Lieutenant-Governor might nominate for his assistance in making laws and regulations was fixed at nine.

107. A Council consisting of the Lieutenant-Governor as President and of a maximum of nine members, of whom one-third at least must be non-official persons, as provided by section 45 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, was thus established in April 1897 as the Legislating Authority for Burma. The legislative powers of this Council are exercised subject to the control of the Governor-General in Council, to whom all Bills included under the provisions of section 43 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, or containing penal clauses, are submitted for previous sanction, and to whom also every project of law is forwarded for transmission to the Secretary of State before it is introduced into Council. Before any measure carried through the Council can become law, it must receive the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor and of the Governor-General. The first appointments to the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma for the purpose of making laws and regulations in Burma were made on the 1st August 1897, when nine gentlemen were appointed members, of whom four (including two natives of Burma) were non-officials. The first meeting of the Council was held on the 4th November 1897.

Extent of powers.

108 The legislating authority of the Council extends over the territories administered by the Local Government.

The restrictions to the exercise of its powers are, by virtue of section 43 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, as follows.

It shall not be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, except with the sanction of the Governor-General previously communicated to him, to make Regulations or take into consideration any Law or Regulation for any of the purposes next hereinafter mentioned, that is to say :—

(1) Affecting the public debt of India, or the customs duties, or any other tax or duty now in force and imposed by the authority of

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the Government of India for the general purposes of such Government:

(2) Regulating any of the current coin or the issue of any bills, notes or other paper currency:

(3) Regulating the conveyance of letters by the Post Office or messages by the electric telegraph within the Presidency:

(4) Altering in any way the Penal Code of India as established by Act of the Governor-General in Council, No. XLV of 1860:

(5) Affecting the religion or religious rites and usages of any class of Her Majesty's subjects in India:

(6) Affecting the discipline or maintenance of any part of Her Majesty's military or naval forces:

(7) Regulating patents or copyright:

(8) Affecting the relations of the Government with foreign Princes or States:

Further powers of Council.

109. Under section 5 of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may from time to time, by Acts passed under and subject to the provisions of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, and with the previous sanction of the Governor-General, but not otherwise, repeal or amend, as regards the province of Burma, any Law or Regulation made either before or after the passing of the Indian Councils Act, 1892, by any authority in India other than the Burma Council. It is provided, however, that an Act or a provision of an Act so made by the Burma Council, and subsequently assented to by the Governor-General in pursuance of the Indian Councils Act, 1861, will not be deemed invalid by reason only of its requiring the previous sanction of the Governor-General under the above section.

Course of Legislature.

Acts passed.

110. Four Acts passed by the Council of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma became law during the year 1901, namely, Act I [The (Lower) Burma Land and Revenue Act Amendment Act, 1901], Act II [The Burma Military Police Act Amendment Act, 1901], Act III [The Burma Towns Law Amendment Act, 1901], and Act IV [The Lower Burma Courts Act Amendment Act, 1901]. These Acts were described in the Administration Report of the preceding year during which they were introduced before the Council.

111. Towards the close of the year 1901 four Bills were introduced into the Council, namely,—

I.—The Burma Village Law Amendment Bill;
II.—The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Bill;
III.—The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill; and
IV.—The Burma Forest Bill.

They were passed in the early part of the year 1902 and have become law as Burma Acts I, II, III and IV of 1902 respectively.

The Burma Village Law Amendment Bill.

112. The object of the Burma Village Law Amendment Bill was to empower village-headmen to take cognizance of and punish infractions of certain provisions of the village enactments which require reports to be made to headmen of the arrival and departure of strangers to or from their villages. Under the Lower Burma Act and the Upper Burma Regulation breaches of these provisions were made punishable on conviction before a Magistrate. In practice it had been found that this sanction was ineffectual and, in order to prevent these provisions from becoming nugatory it was decided that village headmen should be empowered to try and punish breaches of these provisions with fine not exceeding five rupees and confinement not exceeding twenty-four hours.

The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Bill.

113. It had been found in practice that attempts to diminish the evil of prostitution in cantonments created other difficulties in the adjoining municipal areas. The main object of the second Bill was to prevent the attempts on the part of Military authorities to stamp out the evil from being rendered fruitless. It was found that section 181 of the Burma Municipal Act was insufficient for the purpose, as under that section action could only be taken against such disorderly houses as are situated

in and near main streets or can be shown to cause general annoyance to the inhabitants of the vicinity. Under the Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1902, power is given to the Commissioner of Police to prohibit by public notice the residence of prostitutes within areas to be defined by the notice. Provision is also made for the prevention of open solicitation in public places. Such acts are made punishable, but the clause is restricted to cases instituted on complaint of the person solicited or of a police-officer who is above the rank of constable or is a European constable who has been specially authorized by the Commissioner of Police in that behalf.

The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill.

114. The Bill amending the Burma Municipal Act had for its main object the increase of the powers of Municipal Committees in dealing with the nuisance of public prostitution. The provisions for abating the evil are the same as those contained in the Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1902, except that the powers conferred upon the Commissioner of Police in Rangoon are to be exercised partly by the Magistrate and partly by the Municipal Committee in up-country towns. Besides the clauses relating to prostitution the Act contains provisions amending and supplementing the Burma Municipal Act. These provisions relate to the disqualification of members of the Rangoon Municipal Committee interested in contracts with it; the necessity of submitting a complete plan before the commencement of any buildings; the prevention of any question arising that clause (*h*) of section 142 of the Act confers any proprietary rights in respect of the foreshore; the extension of the provision relating to "notified areas" to certain small towns where it is not desirable to impose taxation; and the enabling of a Town Committee to apply for an extension of the Vaccination Law to the notified area.

The Burma Forest Bill.

115. The object of the Burma Forest Bill was to consolidate and amend the law relating to forests in Upper and Lower Burma. Since the Burma Forest Act, 1881, was last substantially amended, sundry proposals for changes in that enactment had from time to time been made. The inconvenience of having separate enactments for Upper and Lower Burma was, as time went on, more and more felt, and although the circumstances of the two portions of the province necessitated certain differences in matters of detail it was considered that these could be provided for in the rules, and the opportunity was consequently taken of consolidating the enactments. Chapter III of Act XIX of 1881, which relates to village-forests, is not reproduced, as experiments regarding the creation of these forests had proved a complete failure. The interests of the village communities do not suffer by the omission, for fuel and grazing reserves will be formed under the ordinary reservation procedure. An important alteration is made in the provisions for the utilization of forest-produce. Under the previous law no person could utilize forest produce save in accordance with rule, but under the present Act forest-produce may be utilized except when prohibited by rule. Under the present Act provision is made empowering Government to prescribe rafting stations and declaring that single logs launched in the stream shall not be deemed to be adrift until they get below these stations. Certain provisions of the previous enactment have been omitted as unnecessary, and the subject-matter has in certain instances been re-arranged. Instead of inserting penalty clauses in the chapter containing the subject-matter to which they related, all such clauses and all clauses in the nature of criminal procedure and providing for the recovery of Government dues have, as far as possible, been collected in Chapter VI. As the collection of drift, stranded and other timber referred to timber in transit, the subject has been placed under a separate sub-head in Chapter V instead of in a separate chapter.

General Acts affecting Burma.

116. The following Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year:—

I.—An Act to amend the law relating to the admission of Native Military Lunatics into Asylums.

II.—An Act to amend the law relating to the exemption from tolls of persons and property belonging to the Army [The Indian Tolls (Army) Act, 1901].

III.—An Act further to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1889. [The Indian Ports Act, 1901].

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V.—An Act to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1878 [The Indian Forest Act Amendment Act, 1901].

VII.—An Act to place Native Christians on the same position as Hindus, Muhammadans and Buddhists in the matter of obtaining letters-of-administration and for other purposes [The Native Christian Administration Estates Act, 1901].

VIII.—An Act to provide for the Regulation and Inspection of Mines [The Indian Mines Act, 1901].

IX.—An Act further to amend the Indian Articles of War [The Indian Articles of War Amendment Act, 1901].

X.—An Act to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870 [The Court-fees Amendment Act, 1901].

XI.—An Act to facilitate the citation of certain enactments and to amend and repeal certain obsolete enactments [The Repealing and Amending Act, 1901].

117. The following Regulations applying to Burma were enacted during the year:—

II.—A Regulation to provide for the exclusion from the operation of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, of the Hill District of Arakan [The Arakan Hill District Laws Regulation, 1901].

V.—A Regulation further to amend the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1899 [The Upper Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Regulation, 1901].

Enactments extended to the Shan States.

118. The provisions of section 43 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889), were extended to the Civil Station of Taunggyi in the Shan State of Yaunghwe. The Indian Railways Act, 1890 (IX of 1890), was extended to the Shan States of Hsipaw and North Hsenwi, and the Opium Act, 1878 (I of 1878), the Indian Arms Act, 1878 (XI of 1878), and the Excise Act, 1896 (XII of 1896), were extended to such lands as now are, or hereafter may be, occupied by the Mandalay-Kunlong Railway including the lands occupied as stations and for out-buildings and for other purposes connected with the said Railway in the States of Hsipaw and North Hsenwi in the Northern Shan States. The provisions of sections 223 and 224 of the Civil Procedure Code (Act XIV of 1882) were extended to the Shan States. Subject to certain modifications, the Burma Municipal Act, 1898 (III of 1898), was also extended to these States.

Police.

119. The Police had, on the whole, to deal with a smaller body of crime than in 1900, and were less successful in dealing with it. Cattle-theft and serious hurt cases continued to constitute the bulk of important crime in Lower Burma. The conduct of the force, both Civil and Military Police, was good. Much-needed improvements in the pay and grading of Assistant Superintendents of Police received the sanction of the Government of India during the year.

Constitution and cost of the force.

120. The total cost of the district executive force exceeded the cost in the previous year by Rs. 90,000, the principal increase occurring under the head of "Contingencies and miscellaneous expenditure." The constitution of the force remained practically the same as in 1900.

Recruiting and conduct of the men.

121. Although the number of dismissals was less, the total number of punishments awarded showed a slight increase. The number of men rewarded increased considerably. The proportion of actual to sanctioned strength remained about the same as in the previous year. In some parts of the province it is said to be increasingly difficult to obtain recruits, but no difficulty was found in obtaining suitable recruits in Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Bassein, where the competition of the labour market is certainly not less severe than elsewhere.

Training and education of the force.

122. The percentage of illiterate men to the actual strength was 15·13, a percentage which was lower than in the previous year. In Amherst less than half the force, other than officers, were literate. In the Ruby Mines district the ratio of literates showed an improvement. In Myingyan all but 13 men in the total force can read and write. The percentage of men of over ten years' service (51)

was higher also in this district than in any other. The results of the training of old constables were not quite so good as in the previous year. The ratio of long service men, *i.e.*, of ten years and upwards, is very low in outlying districts, such as Myitkyina, the Ruby Mines and Salween. III.—PROTECTION.

123. A beginning was made with the scheme for providing permanent or semi-permanent cottages at out-stations in place of temporary huts. District Officers are practically unanimous in advocating this reform. **Buildings.**

124. Generally speaking, there was a satisfactory decrease in the number of crimes of all classes excepting house-breaking and lurking house-trespass. Cases of hurt by dangerous weapons showed a slight falling off, but grievous hurt cases were more numerous than in 1900. They were especially prevalent in the delta and riverine districts of Lower Burma. The power to arrest and try drunken brawlers, which has been entrusted to village headmen in some districts under section 510, Indian Penal Code, was reported to have had a good effect in Prome. The decrease in cases of hurt by dangerous weapons is generally attributed to the infliction of deterrent sentences. Crime in Hanthawaddy and Pegu was less in volume, but detection was very bad and the number of hurt cases in the former district increased considerably, as was also the case in Yamèthin. There was a slight decrease in the number of cases of cattle-maiming. Ordinary theft cases were much the same as in the previous year, the percentage of convictions being slightly less. No cases of infanticide occurred during the year. **Cognizable crime.**

125. Cattle-thefts scarcely decreased in number, while the ratios of recoveries and of convictions remained much the same. Prome and Tharrawaddy still maintained their unenviable position at the head of the list of cattle-thefts, but in the former district the number of cases fell from 436 to 411 and in the latter from 317 to 253. There was an increase of cattle-thefts in Upper Burma, especially in Pakôkku, Katha, Shwebo, Sagaing, Kyauksè, and Meiktila. The Magwe district formed an exception to this tendency. The number of cattle-thefts, which in 1899 was 228, was only 48 in 1901. In Lower Burma, Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Toungoo showed increases, Tharrawaddy, Bassein and Henzada decreases, the latter by 82 cases. Detection was slightly worse than in 1900. **Cattle theft.**

126. Violent crime increased slightly. The increase was confined almost entirely to murders, attempts at murder and house-breaking. Dacoities and robberies diminished from 293 to 286. Firearms were used in 30 cases, as compared with 32 in the previous year. In the Amherst and Thatôn districts firearms were used in 9 and 4 cases respectively. The prompt and vigorous action taken by the District and Police authorities in Tharrawaddy effectively suppressed the abortive rising in December 1901 of an impostor who laid claim to supernatural powers. The extent to which villagers rendered assistance was not satisfactory, but headmen on the whole did their duty in this respect. In the Thatôn and Amherst districts the co-operation of the police and the people left much to be desired. Detection in cases of violent crime was rather better, but still left much to be desired in Pegu and Hanthawaddy, and in Bhamo, Shwebo and Meiktila. With few exceptions, superior Police Officers personally investigated cases of serious crime. **Dacoities and robberies.**

127. The working of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code showed a distinct falling off. In the Toungoo district out of 71 persons brought before the Courts only 24, or 34 per cent., were required to furnish security. Surveillance of released convicts was satisfactorily performed, and the working of the beat-patrol system was good except in Magwe. The finger-impression system was extended and proved of considerable value, the percentage of cases traced to cases referred having increased from 5 to 15. The Central Bureau at Rangoon more than justified its institution. **Preventive provisions.**

128. The working of the Railway Police continued to be satisfactory. A considerable number of offences under the excise and opium laws were detected and the percentage of convictions was creditable to the police. There were no less than five cases of placing obstacles on the line, none of which were detected. **Railway Police.**

III.—PROTECTION. A serious dacoity occurred at Tawma, in which the offenders were not caught, but the stolen property was recovered. Thefts decreased and the ratio of convictions was higher than in 1900. The status of the officer in charge of the Railway Police was raised during the year from Assistant Superintendent to District Superintendent of Police. Fifty-four miles of railway were opened to traffic.

Military Police.

129. The working of the Military Police was, on the whole, satisfactory. The number of punishments inflicted departmentally showed a marked decrease, while the number of rewards granted was considerably larger, though principally confined to the Bhamo and Northern Shan States Battalions. The strength of the force on 1st January 1902 was 15,053, or 149 below the sanctioned strength. There were 99 desertions during the year, of which 38 occurred in the Myitkyina Battalion and 26 in the Toungoo Battalion. The health of the force was far from satisfactory. In the Chindwin Battalion the percentage of admissions to hospital was 367·90, while in the Bhamo, Shwebo and Ruby Mines Battalions it was over 140. The admissions to hospital increased by 3,640. This unsatisfactory state of things is attributed to various causes, such as lack of warm clothing, unsuitable accommodation, and the undermanning of certain Battalions, which renders it difficult to relieve men at unhealthy outposts at proper intervals. Action has been taken in several cases recently to supply warm clothing.

In addition to the usual escorts furnished to Civil Officers a small expedition was despatched in January to punish the village of Khrum in the unadministered tract adjoining the Pakôkku Chin Hills. A considerable amount of extra work was performed by the mounted infantry of the force in furnishing escorts during His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Burma.

All the Battalions were inspected during the year by the Officiating Inspector-General or the Deputy Inspector-General of Police with the exception of the Arakan Hill Tracts Battalion, which was inspected after the close of the year, and the Rangoon Battalion.

Punitive Police.

130. Only two bodies of Punitive Police were imposed during the year, both in the Henzada district. The punitive police was imposed in consequence of the commission of serious crimes and of the failure of the inhabitants to assist in their detection.

Village Police.

131. The number of headmen in Burma increased from 18,505 to 18,693, the increase being due to growth of population and formation of new villages. Special civil powers were exercised by 709 headmen against 670 in the previous year. A considerable amount of petty civil litigation was disposed of by village headmen in the Irrawaddy division. The number of headmen exercising special criminal powers was 498 or 21 more than in the previous year. Fines amounting to upwards of a lakh of rupees were imposed by headmen in exercise of their criminal jurisdiction. The work of headmen as collectors of revenue was uniformly good. Their general conduct was, on the whole, satisfactory. The number dismissed fell from 258 to 213.

Rangoon Town Police.

Rangoon Town Police.

132. The statistics indicate a continuance of steady good work on the part of the police. The conduct of the force was good, dismissals and departmental punishments being creditably few; there was, however, a large proportionate increase in the number of men magisterially punished. The number of recruits was slightly lower than in the previous year. There was a slight increase of serious crime, due to a greater number of offences against property. Offences against the person were less numerous than in the previous year. Detection was not so good as in 1900. Cases of house-breaking were again somewhat numerous. Thefts increased slightly, but the value of the property taken was in most cases small and the percentage of convictions (86·5) was very good. Gambling is reported to be on the increase. Firearms were not used in any case during the year. The surveillance of criminals was creditable to the police. The conduct of beat-patrols was good, and the relations of the police with the headmen were harmonious and productive of good results.

Criminal Justice.

III.—PROTECTION.

133. Seventy-two thousand six hundred and seventy-four cases were instituted during the year against 74,572 in 1900. The decrease is accounted for in Lower Burma by a falling off under the head of offences under the Police Act and in Upper Burma by the compounding of Municipal cases in Mandalay. **Cases instituted.**

134. The number of cases returned as true was 67,233 as compared with 69,378 in the previous year. The percentage of true to reported offences fell slightly in Lower Burma from 94·7 in 1900 to 94·01 in the year under report and rose in Upper Burma from 87·51 to 87·60. Of the 52,314 true cases returned for Lower Burma 24,321 were under the Indian Penal Code and 27,993 under Special and Local laws. In the upper section of the Province the figures were 8,217 and 6,702, respectively, out of a total number of 14,919 cases returned as true. **True and false cases.**

135. The total number of cases disposed of by Magistrates of all classes fell slightly in Lower Burma from 53,976 to 52,302 and from 16,500 to 15,929 in Upper Burma. The number of cases tried by District Magistrates rose by 181 in Lower Burma, but fell by 86 in the Upper Province. The number of cases tried by Honorary Magistrates in Lower Burma was 14,817 as compared with 15,921 in 1900 and 1,847 in Upper Burma as compared with 2,454 in the previous year. The average duration of cases in Lower Burma was 11 days against 10 days in 1900 and 8 days against 7 days in Upper Burma. **Disposal of cases.**

136. The percentage of convictions in Lower Burma was lower than in the previous year (61·8 against 62·6). This was also the case in Upper Burma (66·22 against 68·43). **Proportion of convictions.**

137. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to the demand of security to keep the peace in Lower Burma was 246 as against 309 in 1900 and 149 against 66 in Upper Burma. The percentage of cases in which security was demanded in Lower Burma showed an improvement over that of 1900, 88·2 as against 80·5, and also in Upper Burma, 78 as against 67 per cent. **The preventive sections.**

138. The total number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma was 438 or 22 more than in 1900 and the number of persons dealt with was 751 as compared with 727. The percentage of convictions dropped from 63·88 to 59·18. **The Chief Court and Sessions Courts.**

The number of cases committed to the Chief Court for trial was 38 as against 25 for 1900. The percentage of convictions was 76·00 as compared with 64·28. The number of capital sentences referred to the Chief Court for confirmation was 72 against 68 in 1900. Of these 60 were confirmed, 5 reduced, 5 reversed and 2 remained pending at the close of the year.

The average duration of trials in Sessions Courts rose from 35 to 41 days; in the Chief Court it increased from 27 to 31 days.

In Upper Burma Sessions Judges disposed of 106 cases during 1901 against 73 in 1900. The percentage of convictions was 65·07 against 81·90 in 1900. The average duration of sessions trials was 37 against 40 days in 1900. Sixteen sentences were referred for confirmation of the sentence of death, of which 14 were confirmed, one reduced and one reversed.

139. The total number of appeals preferred to all Appellate Courts in Lower Burma was 4,760 as compared with 4,755 in 1900. In the Chief Court the number of appeals instituted was 488 or 56 more than the number in the previous year. The total number of appeal cases disposed of by all Appellate Courts was 4,723 as compared with 4,647 in 1900. The number of appellants dealt with was 5,403 against 5,496 in the previous year. The percentage of sentences confirmed was 74·49 as compared with 70·28 in 1900. The average duration of appeals in all Courts was 14 days, the same as in the preceding year. **Appeals.**

In Upper Burma the total number of appeals preferred was 1,233 or 7 more than in 1900. Appeals to the High Court and to District Magistrates fell, while the number to Sessions Courts rose from 725 to 779. The percentage of sentences left untouched was 62·57 as compared with 60·94 in the previous year. The average duration of cases fell from 13 to 10 days.

III.—PROTECTION.

Punishments.

140. The total number of persons in Lower Burma punished by Magistrates was 52,094 or 1,403 fewer than in 1900. Of these 74·14 per cent. were sentenced to fine only. The percentage of cases in which fines were added to imprisonment rose from 1·39 to 1·84. The percentage of cases in which simple imprisonment was awarded was 0·25, rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinement 17·25 and rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement 1·30. Whippings decreased in number. The total number of persons sentenced by the Sessions Courts in Lower Burma and the Chief Court was 440 as compared with 465 in the previous year. Of these 62 were sentenced to death, 70 to transportation for life and 106 to transportation for terms. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 5,03,759-10-11, the amount realized to Rs. 4,09,929-14-0 and the amount paid as compensation to Rs. 20,432-12-4.

141. Of the 20,437 persons punished in Magisterial Courts in Upper Burma 83·44 per cent. were punished with fine without imprisonment and 2·31 per cent. with fine with imprisonment. The number of cases in which whipping in lieu of other punishments was inflicted was 565, the proportion having fallen from 3·26 to 2·76 per cent. Whippings in addition to other punishments were inflicted in 110 cases, the proportion having risen slightly from ·46 to ·54 per cent. The percentage of sentences of rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinement as well as with solitary confinement fell in 1901 as compared with 1900. Sessions Judges passed 16 death sentences, 12 sentences of transportation for life and 18 for terms, 43 sentences of rigorous imprisonment, 4 of fine only and 3 of whipping only. Fines rose from Rs. 1,67,735 to Rs. 1,93,615. The amount realized was Rs. 1,57,336. As in Lower Burma there was an improvement in the amount awarded to complainants as compensation.

Revision.

142. The total number of cases called for by District Magistrates in Lower Burma, including those pending from the previous year, was 4,222 and the number of persons concerned 7,075 as compared with 4,477 and 7,786 in 1900. Exclusive of the cases of 269 persons which remained undisposed of, in the cases of 6,408 persons there was no interference. References were submitted to the High Court in the case of 284 persons. The number of cases called for by Sessions Judges, including those pending from the previous year, was 915 as compared with 897 in 1900. The number of persons concerned was 1,429. The number of references made to the High Court under section 438 of the Criminal Procedure Code was 241. The number of persons concerned, including those pending from the previous year, was 509. In the Chief Court there remained at the close of the year a pending file of 142 cases called for in revision involving 342 persons.

143. In Upper Burma the number of cases which came before District Magistrates in revision other than under the Criminal Justice Regulation was 1,000 against 1,540 in 1900, and under the Criminal Justice Regulation 1,661 cases against 1,875. Sessions Judges called for 158 more cases than in 1900. The number of persons concerned increased from 1,591 to 3,304. There were 1,241 revision cases, involving 2,806 persons, before the Judicial Commissioner, of which 72 cases and 158 persons were pending from the year previous. One thousand and twenty-four cases were called for by the Court of its own motion and 69 were pending from 1900. The number of persons concerned, including those pending from the previous year, was 2,452. The sentences of 93 per cent. of the persons were left untouched. The number of cases pending at the close of the year was 108, involving 449 persons.

Miscellaneous.

144. The number of juvenile offenders sent to the Reformatory School during 1901 was 13 as against 14 in 1900. Of this number 9 were from Lower Burma and 4 from Upper Burma. The number of witnesses examined in Courts in Lower Burma was 188,927 against 192,286 in 1900. Of the 79,375 witnesses who attended Courts in Upper Burma only 59,424 were examined. The number of processes issued in Upper Burma was 45,799 or 7,000 more than in the year previous. The receipts from processes amounted in Upper Burma to Rs. 13,613 against Rs. 12,952 and charges to Rs. 12,663 against Rs. 11,934.

Prisons.

General Statistics.

145. The Jail population at the commencement of the year (12,074, of whom 11,963 were males and 111 females) was less than at the beginning of the year 1900 (12,960, of whom 12,891 were males and 129 females). The year's admissions (26,903, of whom 26,046 were males and 857 females) were greater than in 1900 (26,278, of whom 25,363 were males and 915 females); the aggregate number decreased from 39,238 (of whom 38,194 were males and 1,044 females) to 38,977 (of whom 38,009 were males and 968 females). The daily average number of all classes decreased from 12,517 (of whom 12,388 were males and 129 females) to 11,915 (of whom 11,795 were males and 120 females) and was smaller than in any of the six preceding years. The number discharged (27,246) was greater than in 1900 (27,164). The year closed with a smaller jail population (11,731) than that with which it opened. The number of direct commitments decreased from 16,228 in 1900 to 15,320 and the number admitted by transfer from jails in the province increased from 2,107 to 2,379. The returns of transfers to other jails or transportations beyond seas were 2,387 as compared with 2,168 in 1900.

Accommodation.

146. The Myaungmya Jail with accommodation for 536 prisoners was opened on the 11th March 1901. By reclassification and remeasurement the accommodation of the Shwebo Jail was decreased from 261 to 240 and that of five other jails increased as shown in the margin. The net result is an increase of 809 of the total accommodation as compared with the previous year. As noted above the daily average strength of all classes was 11,795 males and 120 females, while the capacity of all the jails in the province was 14,648, namely, males 14,257, females 391. Overcrowding was only occasional and was promptly relieved.

Insein increased by 100.
Prome increased by 50.
Paungdè increased by 88.
Henzada increased by 14.
Mergui increased by 42.

Judicial.

147. Of the 15,320 convicts committed during the year 3,563 or 23·26 per cent. had previous convictions, 1,432 of these having been previously convicted more than once. The percentage of previous convictions during 1900 was 21·07. The percentage varied from 43·68 in the Thayetmyo Jail to 4·33 at Bhamo. The number of prisoners committed to jail under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code (2,219) showed a decrease as compared with the numbers of the previous year (2,555). Habitual offenders numbered 3,096 as compared with 3,415 the previous year. Of these all but 30 were identified before conviction and of these latter one confessed himself to be an habitual.

Discipline

148. The only escape during the year was that of a convict from the Myaungmya Jail. He was, however, recaptured after five days. There were no recaptures of prisoners who escaped in previous years. The total number remaining uncaptured at the end of the year was twelve.

Thirty-six thousand six hundred and thirty-five offences were dealt with by Jail Superintendents and forty-eight by Criminal Courts as compared with thirty-nine thousand two hundred and forty-four and thirty-six respectively the previous year: 87·53 of the offences dealt with by Superintendents were classed as minor. Major punishments increased from 3,743 to 4,527 in the year under review.

Financial.

149. The gross cost of upkeep of jails amounted to Rs. 7,95,874 against Rs. 7,92,738 in the previous year, the cost per head of average strength being Rs. 66-12-9 against Rs. 63-5-4 in 1900. The increase is mainly due to the opening of a jail at Myaungmya and to the purchase of swords for the superior executive establishment.

The cash earnings of convicts sentenced to labour amounted to Rs. 1,99,558 against Rs. 1,94,577 in the previous year. If the earnings of convicts employed in the Jail Press are included, the net earnings would be Rs. 3,14,436 and the average earnings per head Rs. 31-14-3.

The daily average number of convicts sentenced to labour was 9,860 against 10,480 in 1900. Of these 42·30 per cent. were employed industrially, a slightly lower percentage than in 1900.

Gardening operations continued to give excellent results. Practically all the vegetables required in the dieting of prisoners were raised by convict labour,

III.—Protection. besides which by the sale to the public of surplus produce, over Rs. 9,198 was realized during the year as compared with Rs. 8,318 in 1900.

Health Statistics. 150. The ratios of admissions to hospital and of deaths per mille of average population were 547·46 and 15·19 in 1901 as compared with 555·40 and 21·17 in 1900. There were 25 cases of cholera, of which 16, including 12 at Insein, proved fatal. The total number of admissions into hospital on account of dysentery was 673 and of this number Moulmein contributed 156. The death-rate from all causes was highest at Paungdè (65·04) and Minbu (54·95), while at Mergui, Mônywa, Pakôkku, Pagan and Taungdwingyi there were no deaths during the year.

Civil Justice.

Amount and classification of litigation. 151. The number of suits instituted in Burma during the year was 58,143 as compared with 56,995 in 1900. The total decreased by 971 in Lower Burma, but increased by 2,119 in the Upper Province. In Lower Burma there was a slight decrease in the number of suits for money or moveable property and a slight increase in the number of suits for immoveable property. Noticeable features of the figures in Upper Burma are that suits for immoveable property and mortgage suits have fallen by 15 and 31 per cent. respectively and suits for money or moveable property have risen by 17 per cent. The total value of suits in Lower Burma fell from Rs. 75,58,253 to Rs. 71,57,070 and rose in Upper Burma from Rs. 16,10,872 to Rs. 22,99,929. The increase in the Upper Province was participated in by all districts except the Ruby Mines and Magwe.

Disposal of cases. 152. The number of cases disposed of during the year was 57,490 as compared with 57,077 in the previous year. Of this number 11,412 were decided without trial and 27,792 without contest. As regards contested cases judgment was given for the plaintiff in whole or in part in 12,414 cases or 68 per cent., the same percentage as in 1900.

The average duration of contested cases rose in both Upper and Lower Burma. In uncontested cases it rose in Lower Burma and was the same as in the previous year in the Upper Province. The schemes for the constitution of a separate Superior Judicial Service and the formation of a Subordiate Judicial Service in Lower Burma are still under consideration.

Cases referred to arbitration rose in both sections of the Province. The number of cases compromised in Lower Burma was 2,838 against 2,673 and in Upper Burma 2,249 against 2,133 in the preceding year. Four thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine cases were pending at the close of the year against 3,911 in 1900, of which 1,054 had been pending for more than three months against 891 in the preceding year.

Execution of decrees. 153. There were 20,318 applications for execution of decrees before Courts in Lower Burma and 6,164 in Upper Burma, excluding those disposed of by transfer. The figures for last year were 19,980 and 5,238 respectively. In Lower Burma applications for execution were somewhat less successful than in the previous year, but the difference is not material. In Upper Burma the percentage of complete success was 47 against 48 in 1900, and of partial success 19 against 18 in the previous year. The number of judgment-debtors imprisoned rose from 332 to 405 in Lower Burma and from 94 to 106 in Upper Burma. Moveable property was sold in 1,110 cases and immoveable property in 967 cases in Lower Burma. The figures are nearly the same as in the previous year. In Upper Burma moveable property was sold in 435 or 13 per cent. of the cases and immoveable property in 261 or 8 per cent. of the cases.

Insolvency proceedings. 154. One hundred and thirty-four persons applied to be declared insolvents in Lower Burma as compared with 112 in the previous year. Eleven applications were transferred, 60 rejected and 46 granted. The proportion of declarations granted (43·4) was less than in the previous year. In Upper Burma there were 53 against 50 applications in 1900. Forty-one were disposed of and 12 were pending at the close of the year. Twenty-two applications, or 54 per cent., were successful as compared with 23 per cent. in the previous year.

Appeals. 155. The number of regular appeals in the Province rose slightly from 4,967 to 5,012. The numbers instituted and disposed of in District Courts in Lower Burma

were 1,887 and 1,880 respectively. The number of appeals in Upper Burma District Courts fell from 1,287 to 1,248. The percentage of confirmation in Lower Burma was 59·6 against 58·5 in 1900 and in Upper Burma 57 against 59 the year previous. The appellate work of Divisional Courts in Lower Burma is increasing, the numbers of appeals instituted and disposed of being 218 and 215 respectively as compared with 182 and 160 in the previous year. In Upper Burma there were only 8 as against 25 appeals before Divisional Courts. They were all disposed of. The number of regular appeals in the Chief Court was 335 as compared with 304 in 1900. The number actually disposed of was 293 as compared with 481 in the previous year. There were 122 applications for revision preferred as compared with 145 in 1900. The number disposed of, namely, 121, was the same as in the previous year. The proportion of successful applications was not large. In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, there was a further increase from 346 to 360 in the number of appeals instituted, but only 312 were disposed of against 328 during 1900. There was much less interference with the decrees of the Lower Courts, 72 per cent. being confirmed. The number of revisions by the High Court rose from 90 to 98. The number of miscellaneous applications made to that Court was 44 or 8 fewer than in 1900.

Processes.

156. The total number of processes issued by Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts and offices in Lower Burma fell from 650,921 in 1900 to 642,816 in the year of report. The receipts from process fees were Rs. 1,62,010 as compared with Rs. 1,62,411 in 1900. The cost of the process-serving establishment was Rs. 1,01,122 in 1901 and Rs. 99,256 in the year previous. Contingencies amounted to Rs. 13,440 as compared with Rs. 17,122 in the previous year. The result shows a net surplus of Rs. 49,314 or Rs. 5,147 more than in the preceding year. In Upper Burma processes of all kinds numbered 150,361 against 127,473 in 1900. Receipts rose from Rs. 34,655 to Rs. 42,034 and charges from Rs. 15,059 to Rs. 15,510. The rises in receipts and charges were proportionate.

Inspections.

157. There were 263 Court inspections in Lower Burma as compared with 275 in the preceding year. The Judges of the Chief Court did slightly more inspection work than in 1900. Judges of Subdivisional Courts did rather less (17 as against 26) and Judges of District Courts considerably less (127 against 148). Divisional Judges made 51 inspections against 38 in 1900. Divisional Judges are reported to have taken a full share in the control and supervision of the judicial administration. In Upper Burma the Judicial Commissioner inspected 25 Courts in all against 37 the year before; Divisional Judges 78 Courts or 8 more than 1900, and District Judges 154 as compared with 141 the year previous. With but few exceptions the Courts inspected in Upper Burma were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Miscellaneous.

158. Attention was paid to the condition of libraries in district and other offices in Lower Burma. The libraries at the headquarters of districts in Upper Burma were generally found to be supplied with all necessary books and pamphlets and to have correct catalogues. Much attention was paid during the year at inspections to the libraries of Subdivisional and Township Courts. Orders have recently been issued by the Government of India which will meet the desire for a more liberal distribution of text-books and commentaries to District Courts. Much progress is reported to have been made in Lower Burma in the destruction of old records. In Upper Burma the record-room rules are said to be better worked. There appears to be still room for improvement in the accommodation provided for Courts in Lower Burma not only at out-stations but even at some district headquarters. Suitable court-houses now exist throughout Upper Burma except at a few outlying stations.

Registration.

Registration of deeds.

159. The law regarding the registration of deeds remained unchanged throughout the year under review, but two important alterations were made in the rules in force in Lower Burma. By the first of these, the obligation to attach a certified extract of the survey map to every document presented for registration affecting land in areas under cadastral survey was modified; by the second, a

III.—PROTECTION. necessary improvement in the system of indexing immoveable property was effected.

Number of offices. 160. A new sub-registration office was opened at Thôngwa in the Hanthawaddy district, consequent on the formation of a new township. This addition raised the total number of offices open during the year to 148.

Lower Burma.

Documents registered and their value. 161. The increase in the number of documents of all kinds registered in Lower Burma amounted to nearly 10 per cent., while the gross receipts from fees for all operations was slightly over 8 per cent. in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous year. The improvement was mainly under the head of instruments of mortgage which comprised roughly one-half of the total number of documents registered. Extension of cultivation, cattle disease and losses in paddy trade, consequent on the low price of paddy, are cited in explanation of the rise. On the other hand, the average value of the documents registered fell from Rs. 1,326 of Rs. 1,270.

Upper Burma.

162. The large increase in the previous year (due chiefly to the inception of settlement operations in two districts) both in the number of documents registered and in the amount of fees realised was not maintained during the year of report. If, however, due allowance be made for the inflation of the grand totals of 1900-01, due to exceptional circumstances, the returns for 1901-02 show a satisfactory growth, which may in part be attributed to a better knowledge of the requirements of the law as regards registration. The decline in receipts from fees was small owing to the fact that the average value of the documents registered rose from Rs. 512 to Rs. 674.

Receipts and expenditure. 163. Gross and net receipts amounted to Rs. 1,07,460 and Rs. 63,519 respectively, while the increase in expenditure over the charges of the previous year was only Rs. 703. This amount debited against the department does not, however, include any proportion of the salaries paid to Registering Officers, all of whom in Burma are Government officers who devote only a portion of their time to registration.

General remarks. 164. The Inspector-General considers, as a result of his own inspection and from a perusal of inspection notes of Deputy Commissioners and Commissioners, that registration work is on the whole satisfactorily performed. Unnecessary delays in copying and returning documents require, however, to be checked.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon. 165. The northern and southern boundaries of the Rangoon Municipality were extended during the year. The incidence of taxation per head of population was 5·90 and the incidence of income Rs. 17·27. Exclusive of debt accounts the general income and expenditure amounted to Rs. 22,56,981 and Rs. 27,64,634 respectively as compared with Rs. 24,11,128 and Rs. 23,67,892 in 1900-01. The decrease in income was due mainly to the credit of certain abnormal items in the previous year. The expansion of ordinary receipts from taxation and other sources was maintained; and the 9 per cent. municipal tax was reduced to 8 per cent. with effect from the 1st April 1902. The increase in expenditure is accounted for chiefly by the outlay of Rs. 1,70,000 on the Hlawga water-supply scheme, Rs. 3,00,000 on improving the present water-supply distribution and Rs. 1,28,000 on a new Air Compressor Station. The outstanding loans at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 57,51,000. The Municipal Fire Brigade did good work. The Thamaing water-supply project was abandoned in favour of the Hlawga project after full consideration. The principal sanitary works undertaken during the year were those connected with reclamation, the regrading of road-side drains and the construction of dhobies' washhouses. Special attention was paid to the difficulties arising in connection with the housing of the poor. The General Hospital receipts and expenditure were Rs. 18,346 and Rs. 1,67,979 respectively as compared with Rs. 17,632 and Rs. 2,27,193 in 1900-01. The greater expenditure in the previous year was due to the erection of additional buildings. There was an increase in

the number of patients treated. All the hospitals in Rangoon have now been transferred to Government. Progress has been made with the scheme for the introduction of electric lighting and tramways into Rangoon. Sanction has been accorded to the extension of the period for the repayment of loans; and legislation in connection with the institution of a provident fund for Municipal employés has been approved.

Minor Municipalities.

166. The number of Municipalities in the Province at the end of March 1902 was 41, the same as at the close of the preceding year. Of these 12 were administered under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation, 1887. The Burma Municipal Act, 1898, was extended to Pyinmana during the year and applications to extend it to other towns in Upper Burma are under consideration.

Alterations of limits.

167. At Kyauksè the census revealed the fact that a portion of the population had moved to settlements just outside Municipal limits in order to escape taxation. It was therefore deemed advisable to revise the boundaries and five adjacent villages were included within the Municipality. Alterations of limits also took place at Pyinmana, Pakôkku and Thayetmyo.

Constitution of Committees. Attendance at meetings.

168. The total number of members of Municipal Committees was 534, of whom 169 were *ex-officio*, 273 nominated and 92 elected, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 532, 164, 277 and 91. The figures of average attendance of members show a small improvement.

Elections.

169. Elections were held at Mandalay, Prome and Henzada. At the last of these places considerable interest was taken in the contest, three of the old members being unseated.

Incidence of taxation and income.

170. The average amount paid as taxes by each inhabitant of a Municipality throughout the Province was Rs. 1-6-1 and the income per head of population averaged Rs. 3-14-7, per annum, the figures for 1900-01 being Rs. 1-4-9 and Rs. 3-6-9 respectively. The incidence of taxation was highest at Prome (Rs. 2-7-2), Moulmein (Rs. 2-3-3) and Bassein (Rs. 2-2-0), while the incidence of income was highest at Moulmein (Rs. 7-0-6—nearly one-half of which was due to a loan raised in the open market), Gyobingauk (Rs. 5-11-8) and Myaungmya (Rs. 5-10-0). Taxation was lightest in Bhamo, where the inhabitants only paid Rs. 0-5-5 per head.

Revision of assessment.

171. The reports show that there was no revision of assessment in more than half of the Municipalities. There appears to be little doubt that revision should take place more frequently than it does. Where it was undertaken during the year the result was, as a rule, to enhance the revenue.

Fresh imposts.

172. The following fresh imposts were levied—a lighting tax at Akyab, a tax and toll on carts at Bassein, taxes on lands covered by buildings at Myanaung and Zalun and taxes on buildings at Letpadan and Gyobingauk. Proposals for the imposition of a water-tax in Moulmein were delayed owing to the discussion of legal questions involved and the tax only came into force from the 1st April 1902. No new imposts were levied in Upper Burma.

Demands and collections.

173. In all but a few Municipalities there were only trifling outstandings or none, at all at the end of the year. The largest were, as usual, at Akyab and Moulmein Rs. 4,887 and Rs. 4,986 respectively.

Income and expenditure.

174. Exclusive of items under the head "Extraordinary and debt" the aggregate income amounted to Rs. 22,92,673 as compared with Rs. 21,93,284 in 1900-01 and ordinary expenditure to Rs. 20,31,386 as compared with Rs. 20,09,812 in the previous year. The total closing balance was Rs. 6,60,458 against an opening balance of Rs. 6,01,039.

Rates and taxes.

175. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 9,23,522 or Rs. 55,949 more than in 1900-01, although twelve Municipalities collected less. The principal increase was under the head taxes on houses and lands, which brought in Rs. 5,30,230 or Rs. 31,410 more than last year, Mandalay accounting for more than two-thirds of the increase.

Realisations under special Acts.

176. Realisations under special Acts decreased by Rs. 6,114. There was a decline of Rs. 5,252 in hackney carriage receipts.

III.—PROTECTION.

Other sources of revenue.

177. The total revenue derived from Municipal property apart from taxation was Rs. 12,32,866 as compared with Rs. 11,89,927 in the previous year. Fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses amounted to Rs. 10,42,096, an advance of Rs. 52,774. The main increases were Rs. 21,952 at Mandalay and Rs. 14,387 at Pegu. Hackney carriage licenses and receipts produced nearly 50 per cent. more, Zalun accounting for more than half of this, and lighting fund receipts more than 50 per cent. in excess of the figures for 1900-01. Fines brought in Rs. 10,324 less than in the previous year. There was a decrease of Rs. 23,536 under sale-proceeds of land and produce of lands.

Grants and contributions.

178. The amounts contributed from Government and local sources were Rs. 49,913 and Rs. 38,640 as compared with Rs. 35,614 and Rs. 43,129 in 1900-01. The contributions from other sources amounted to Rs. 3,010 against Rs. 10,515. A special Government grant of Rs. 22,810 was given to Mandalay to meet half the cost of the retired embankment at Thayetmaw. If this is left out of consideration, there was a decrease in the total amount of grants and contributions from all three sources. New grants of Rs. 950 from Government and Rs. 900 from local sources were given to Kyaukpyu, and Rs. 1,500 from local sources to Toungoo for medical purposes and Rs. 500 from Government to Zalun for general purposes.

General administration and collection charges.

179. The charges for general administration and the collection of taxes increased from Rs. 2,43,291 to Rs. 2,52,529. There was an increase of Rs. 12,702 in the total cost of establishments shared by all except nine Municipalities. Collection of taxes cost rather more and collection of tolls rather less than in 1900-01. Mandalay spent Rs. 13,969 and Henzada Rs. 3,833 on surveys.

Expenditure on public safety.

180. The expenditure on public safety amounted to Rs. 2,01,080 against Rs. 1,95,895 in 1900-01. Nine of the Upper Burma Municipalities continued to pay for police. The expenditure on lighting establishments decreased from Rs. 1,49,349 to Rs. 1,48,924. Expenditure on fire-protection appliances and establishments rose from Rs. 22,960 to Rs. 27,854. The increase in the case of Mandalay was nearly Rs. 10,000.

Water-supply.

181. The quality of the water to be supplied in Mandalay has at length been favourably reported on, but the scheme is still in abeyance, while discussions proceed as to the arrangements relating to the supply in Cantonments. Progress is being made at Moulmein in carrying out the works. The Prome Committee are still in doubt on some points, but they have taken up a loan of a lakh and a half and the purchase of new engines has been sanctioned. The Bassein scheme is somewhat beyond the capacity of Municipal finances. Money is, however, being set aside and the Committee hope to obtain assistance from Government. The Akyab project has been postponed for the present in favour of more urgent works. As regards the smaller schemes, further experiments are being carried out at Yamèthin by the Committee and at Minbu at Government expense. In Pegu, Gyobingauk, Letpadan and Paungdè serious efforts are being made to improve existing arrangements.

Sanitation.

182. The construction of new *pucca* drains was proceeded with at Prome, involving expenditure of Rs. 24,800 during the year. There were 287 prosecutions at Akyab in connection with offences against the sanitary byelaws. The scheme for improving the surface-drainage of Moulmein did not progress during the year. The question has now been re-opened and it is hoped that substantial progress will be made before long.

Conservancy.

183. Expenditure on conservancy increased by Rs. 40,436. There was an increase of Rs. 5,500 at Bassein, owing to the erection of new buildings consequent on the advent of the railway. In spite of increased expenditure at Mandalay and Moulmein the conservancy arrangements at those towns were condemned by the Sanitary Commissioner.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

184. The expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries was Rs. 3,26,331 against Rs. 2,79,773 in the previous year. Mandalay spent Rs. 85,702, which includes a sum of Rs. 17,520 for the Burgess Memorial Ward. Considerable expenditure

was also incurred at Akyab (Rs. 21,952), Bassein (Rs. 21,619), Myingyan (Rs. 19,744), (Moulmein Rs. 18,171) and Toungoo (Rs. 11,731). A hospital for seamen is being built at Akyab. III.—PROTECTION.

185. There was a further advance of Rs. 1,278 in expenditure on vaccination in Municipal areas. **Vaccination.**

186. The expenditure on markets and slaughter-houses advanced from Rs. 1,71,611 to Rs. 1,86,419. The largest increase, Rs. 12,155 at Myaungmya, was due to the acquisition of a site for a new bazaar and the beginning of the construction of a new building to replace the old bazaar destroyed by fire. There were also considerable increases at Mandalay, Myanaung and Yamèthin and decreases at Shwebo and Letpadan. **Markets and slaughter-houses.**

187. The cost of registering births and deaths was Rs. 11,499 against Rs. 10,470 in 1900-01. **Registration of vital statistics.**

188. There was an increase of Rs. 1,38,673 in expenditure on public works shared by 26 Municipalites. Establishments cost Rs. 1,00,556 as compared with Rs. 85,249 in the previous year and roads cost Rs. 4,39,208 as against Rs. 3,25,440. Pegu spent Rs. 10,370 less on roads during the year and Moulmein Rs. 11,918 less. Mandalay on the other hand spent Rs. 1,31,879 more on roads than in the preceding year, mostly on repairs. An extension for six months of the period within which the construction of the Mandalay electric tramways must be begun was granted to the Burma Electric Works Syndicate. The transfer of the concession from the Syndicate to the Burma Electric Tramways and Lighting Company, Limited, has been sanctioned by Government. **Public Works.**

189. Municipal expenditure on public instruction showed an advance in both sections of the Province. The total increase was Rs. 9,311. The largest increase was Rs. 10,500 at Myanaung and was due to the grant of a special contribution for the construction of a new school building. The assignment at Prome was reduced from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 7,000. A more liberal scale of salaries for teachers in Municipal schools has been sanctioned. **Public Instruction.**

190. Moulmein raised Rs. 1,73,045 in the open market during the year. The balance of Government loans outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 1,02,996, approximately one-half of the figure for the previous year. The Prome and Yandoon loans are the only important ones outstanding. **Loans.**

191. The increase in the staff of the Local Audit branch sanctioned during the year resulted in an improvement in the state of the audit work. Misappropriation of Municipal revenue by a tax collector took place at Mandalay; the full amount was recovered. The defalcations at Sagaing, to which reference was made in the report of last year, were found to be more serious than was at first supposed. Final orders have not yet been passed in the case. **Audit and defalcations.**

192. At the close of the year there were nine notified areas in Burma as compared with seven at the end of the previous year. Minhla and Magwe were added to the list. The receipts amounted to Rs. 1,66,778, which with the opening balance of Rs. 62,468 gave an available sum of Rs. 2,29,246. Only Rs. 1,42,352 was spent, leaving the large closing balance of Rs. 86,894. **Town Funds.**

Military.

193. Major-General M. Protheroe, C.B., C.S.I., held command of the Burma district throughout the year. The total strength of the troops in Burma at the beginning of the year was 10,629, of whom 3,352 were Europeans and 7,277 were Natives; the number at the close of the year being 10,311, of whom 3,158 were Europeans and 7,153 were Natives.

[Volunteering.

194. There was no change in the constitution of the volunteer forces during the year under review. They consist of the Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers (comprising Artillery, Naval, and Engineer corps) the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Rifles, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps, and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles. The aggregate enrolled strength

III.—Protection. of the combined force on the 31st March 1902 was 2,460 active and 147 reservists against 2,563 active and 116 reservists on the same date in the previous year. Of the active volunteers 2,148 were adults and 312 cadets. The total number of efficients was 2,321 against 2,381 last year. The amount of capitation tax earned was Rs. 83,163 against 79,287 in 1900-1901].

Marine.

195. No British man-of-war visited the province. The German man-of-war *Hertha* visited Rangoon on the 22nd February 1902.

The R.I.M.S. *Dalhousie* visited the light-houses regularly, on an average once monthly. The R.I.M.S. *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen* and *Bhamo*, plying on the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers, carried 3,571 tons of stores and 109½ lakhs of specie, as well as troops, cattle, ammunition, &c. The aggregate earnings of the three vessels for the year, excluding periods of special duty, amounted to Rs. 1,34,593, an increase of Rs. 10,314 over the previous year and about one lakh less than in 1899-1900. The *Bhamo* was in dock for the period from the 15th August to the 24th September 1901, and on duty in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's visit up to the 16th December 1901. It was specially detailed to bring the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces, Madras, from Bhamo to Mandalay, the *Irrawaddy* being utilized for the tour from Mandalay to Rangoon.

196. The total number of vessels and flats employed in Burma was 75 as compared with 77 in 1900-01. Of these 34 were employed in Upper Burma as last year. The launches *Settler*, *Ferret* and *Search*, the steam-tug *Mary* and two Customs cutters were added to the list. The steam-launches *Kamaing* and *Constructor* arrived at Rangoon late in the year and were sent on to Upper Burma The steam-launch *Tawa* capsized and sank off Western Borongo on the Arakan coast on the 7th January 1902 on her way from Akyab for work on the Pegu-Sittang canal.

The steam-vessels of the flotilla were on an average each employed for 166 days as against 159 in 1900-01 and were under steam for 2,211 hours compared with 2,152 hours. Generally speaking the Upper Burma flotilla was more fully utilized than the Lower Burma flotilla.

197. The total outlay on the whole flotilla was Rs. 4,81,238 compared with Rs. 4,35,327 in the previous year. The total receipts from earnings fell from Rs. 3,65,943 to Rs. 3,54,699. Twenty vessels of the flotilla made a net profit on the year's workings. The remainder of the fleet showed losses which on the total working of the fleet aggregated Rs. 1,26,539. This includes the cost of the new boilers to the steam-launch *Cameo* (Rs. 15,606) and the thorough overhaul of the steam-launch *Margarita* (Rs. 9,835) and steam-launch *Wanderer* (Rs. 18,472).

The receipts of the Marine Workshop showed a net increase of Rs. 5,355 over the receipts of 1900-01. This was due to orders being received more liberally from various Government Departments and Municipalities.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1901-02.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon for year ending 31st March 1902.
* Eighteenth issue of the Agricultural statistics of India for years 1897-98 to 1901-02, Part I, Tables 1 to 6 A and B.
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Agriculture.

198. THE total net area cropped in Burma in 1901-02 amounted to 11,431,788 acres against 11,452,414 acres in the previous year, and the occupied but uncropped fallow area increased from 1,714,859 acres to 2,546,982 acres. Agricultural conditions differ materially in the Lower and Upper Provinces, and it will be convenient to consider them separately. In Lower Burma the cropped area increased from 7,165,804 to 7,261,304 acres. The districts with the largest increases are Thôngwa, 40,526 acres; Myaungmya, 28,547 acres; Pegu, 27,500 acres; Bassein, 23,751 acres, and Hanthawaddy, 22,000 acres. These all fall within the deltaic area, where rice is the one main crop, and the rapid spread of cultivation was caused by a favourable season, comparative absence of cattle-disease, and the firm tone of the rice market. In Thôngwa district the spread of cultivation has been specially rapid during recent years, and it is remarked that at the present rate of progress the extent of waste land available for cultivation in that district will soon be much restricted. There was a considerable increase during the year in the area under tobacco cultivation in Thôngwa and Kyaukpyu districts, but no important variations in other minor crops in Lower Burma. Such fallow areas as existed were mostly found in Akyab, Hanthawaddy, Myaungmya and Bassein districts. Cropped area.

199. In Upper Burma the cropped area was considerably less than in the previous year in Shwebo district (decrease 311,000 acres), Meiktila (65,200 acres), Myingyan (50,900 acres), Minbu (44,000 acres) and Yamèthin (32,000 acres). The statistics show large increases in Magwe, Sagaing and the Lower Chindwin districts, but these were partly due to more accurate figures with the introduction of the system of supplementary survey. The shrinkage in cropped area resulted generally from the scanty and untimely rainfall of the year and from the consequent failure of the irrigation supply in districts such as Shwebo, Meiktila, Myingyan and Minbu, in which the irrigation channels depend largely on the local rainfall for their supply of water. In Shwebo district alone the area irrigated from sources maintained by Government decreased from 83,535 acres in 1900-01 to 7,643 acres in the year under review. In the unirrigated tracts much of the land was ploughed with the early rains, but was left unsown for want of moisture later. In Minbu and Myingyan districts the failure of the Irrawaddy river to rise to a sufficiently high level prevented the cultivation of much of the inundated land along the banks.

200. Rice is the crop ordinarily grown on irrigated lands, and the area under this crop decreased in 1901-02 by some 500,000 acres in Upper Burma. Except in Shwebo district, the area on which paddy could not be planted owing to insufficient water was partially covered by sessamum, pulse, jowar and similar crops. The area under jowar was considerably larger than in the previous year in several

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

districts. Maize was also more generally grown, and the cultivation of gram was more extensive except in Shwebo, Meiktila and Myingyan districts. There was a large reduction in the area under til-seed in the three last-mentioned districts, but the crop was more widely grown during the year in the Sagaing and Lower Chindwin distficts. There was a falling off in the cultivation of both cotton and tobacco when compared with the figures for the previous year. The insufficient rainfall may be said to have led generally to the growth of the more hardy but less profitable crops in the worst favoured districts.

Agricultural stock.

201. The statistics of agricultural stock recorded annually indicate an increase in the number of cattle. There were heavy losses from cattle plague in Akyab district, but the losses were replaced by importations from Chittagong and Kyaukpyu, and cultivation was not materially checked. Elsewere in Lower Burma there were no widespread losses. In Katha district, Upper Burma, foot-and-mouth disease is said to have interfered with the carting of produce during the harvest months, and rinderpest caused considerable losses both here and in parts of other districts. In Shwebo district the young stock felt the want of sufficient fodder, and cattle were exported from Shwebo, the Lower Chindwin, Meiktila and Yamèthin districts to meet the steady demand in the deltaic plains of Lower Burma.

Prices.

202. The price of paddy (unhusked rice) is, broadly speaking, regulated throughout Burma by the Rangoon market. In April 1901 the price of paddy in Rangoon rose from Rs. 80 to Rs. 85 per 100 nine-gallon baskets and with keen competition and limited supplies the market price for sound grain reached Rs. 99 at the beginning of September. From this figure it fluctuated to Rs. 102 early in October and later down to Rs. 83 in the latter half of December. The market for the new crop opened at Rs. 83 to Rs. 85, but fell with plentiful supplies to Rs 75 in March 1902. The price then advanced steadily to Rs. 82 in April and Rs. 89 at the end of June. A cyclone in May caused considerable damage to paddy in transit in the delta and reduced supplies. Owing to the absence of the strong demand from India which had sprung up in the years of scarcity and to the abundance of the crop in Burma, the price of paddy was below the average of the past five years throughout Lower Burma. The price of gram and pulses was generally lower than in the previous year in Upper Burma owing to the larger area under crop and the lessened demand for export. Sessamum rose in price with a short yield, particularly in the Meiktila division. Other variations in price were of no great importance. A deficit in the food-supply in Shwebo district was met by supplies from Katha and other districts, and prices which had risen considerably before harvest rapidly fell again to a normal scale.

Agricultural loans.

203. Agricultural advances for the purchase of cattle and seed-grain, amounting in all to Rs. 2,18,245, were made to cultivators during the year. A sum of Rs. 1,68,148 was outstanding on this account at the beginning of the year and Rs. 1,65,725 were repaid, giving a closing balance of Rs. 2,20,668 of Government money in the hands of the cultivators. The districts in which the largest advances were made were Meiktila (Rs. 30,250), Kyauksè (Rs. 30,000), Katha (Rs. 20,000). Myaungmya (Rs. 19,650) and Tharrawaddy (Rs. 19,050). There was no large demand for loans in many districts where recent harvests have been favourable and money is comparatively plentiful.

Veterinary.

Cattle disease.

204. The amount of cattle-disease and sickness during the year was less on the whole than is ordinarily to be expected. A mild type of foot-and-mouth disease was prevalent generally throughout the province, and a fair number of deaths resulted from anthrax, chiefly in the deltaic districts. The most serious epidemic was an outbreak of rinderpest in Akyab district, which resulted in the loss of some 17,000 cattle. Numerous cases of the same disease also occurred in some of the more remote districts of Upper Burma. In many parts of Akyab district there are large numbers of cattle in a chronic state of semi-starvation, the result being that they are pre-disposed to contract any malady prevalent and readily succumb to the disease. Material assistance in checking the spread of disease and in the treatment of cattle was afforded by the Veterinary Assistants, whose

numbers were increased from 68 to 72 during the year. Three stallions only, one Shan and two Sumatran, were employed by Government, as it was found necessary to destroy the half-bred stallion at Minbu. The Burmans at Tharrawaddy are said to value the services of the Sumatran stallion stationed there. This horse was the sire of eight foals dropped during the past season.

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Pony Breeding.

205. Inoculation of cattle against rinderpest was carried out by the Superintendent on a considerable scale in Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Magwe districts. The work was largely experimental and the results appear to have been very satisfactory. The Burmans were generally well disposed to the system of inoculation, such opposition as was met with being due to the action of certain natives of India in Pegu district.

Inoculation.

206. The department was strengthened by the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent towards the close of the year.

Weather and Crops.

207. The year was one of good rainfall and fair or good crops in Lower Burma. The monsoon began favourably, but there was a slight break with insufficient rain in Prome district in June and July and a break again of two or three weeks in September—most noticeable in Thôngwa and Tharrawaddy districts. In the greater part of the Tenasserim division and in Henzada and Pegu districts crops were decidedly good. In the Arakan division and in the delta generally the rainfall was heavy in October and was prolonged into November, and, in consequence, the paddy did not ripen satisfactorily in all cases, and the outturn was somewhat lighter than had been expected. For the whole harvest in Lower Burma, the quality of the crop was not, however, more than 1 per cent. below normal.

208. In Upper Burma the rainfall was scanty, untimely, and badly distributed. In Myitkyina and Bhamo districts, the harvest was good, and in the Ruby Mines district up to the average. In Katha district, owing to damage by floods and insects and to the failure of the rain in July and the early part of August, the crop was slightly deficient. In Mandalay district almost half the total rainfall occurred in the last week of May and the early part of June, the Irrawaddy river did not rise to within 4 feet of its normal level, and the harvest was poor outside irrigated areas. Throughout the Sagaing division no rain beyond local showers fell during the months of July, August, and September. The early paddy harvest was a failure, the latter sown paddy was generally poor, and most other crops were considerably below normal.

209. In the Minbu division the rainfall was below the average, but the want of rain here was most felt at the commencement and end of the monsoon. In Pakôkku district the *ya* (upland) crops were generally poor, in Magwe district except for slight damage by floods the yield was fair and in Minbu district unirrigated paddy gave a poor outturn, sessamum was a partial failure, and damage was caused by heavy floods along the Môn river. In Thayetmyo district the harvest was slightly below normal.

210. In the Yamèthin district of Meiktila division the rainfall was scanty and a large area in the north of the district remained unsown. In Meiktila and Myingyan districts the sessamum and other dry crops suffered from drought, and later the cotton crop was damaged by heavy rains. In Kyauksè the want of rain was felt early in the season, but the areas under crops were replanted later and the paddy harvest was up to the average The year was generally one of poor harvests in the Upper Province.

Horticulture.

211. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma has prospered during the year. The site of its garden in Rangoon has now been acquired by Government, and the Society received, in addition to a new and convenient site in Kandawgale adjoining the Victoria Memorial Park, a sum of Rs. 1,15,000 on account of its permanent buildings and as compensation for removal.

Agri-horticultural societies.

Its financial position, apart from this, has continued to improve; and though its expenditure aggregated nearly Rs. 13,000, its closing balance increased from

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Rs. 9,959 to Rs. 17,106 exclusive of Rs. 1,15,000 received from Government. Propagation of plants has been carried out on an unusually large scale during the year in view of the requirements of the new Kandawgale garden, and a large number of show plants have been already prepared for removal. There has been a considerable demand for economic plants, notably Mahogany, Mangoes and Coffee, and the experimental cultivation of Sisal Hemp from bulbils supplied by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture has proved a success.

212. The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society, with headquarters at Moulmein, held a very successful annual horticultural show in February 1902.

Experimental cultivation.

213. Experiments in horticulture have been carried out by direct Government agency in gardens at Myitkyina, Sima and Sadôn in the Myitkyina district, at Sinlumkaba in the Kachin Hills, at Haka, Tiddim and Falam in the Chin Hills, at Taunggyi in the Southern Shan States, and at Katha, where a new garden has lately been started.

214. In the Myitkyina garden peaches were produced freely, and there would have been a good crop of strawberries but that the crickets ate all the fruit. Apricots and plums showed good promise, and pummelows, limes and lemons also grew well.

215. The Sima and Sadôn gardens were less successful, and the former has lately been abolished as a Government garden in order that attention may be concentrated on the Sadôn garden. Both, however, produced good English vegetables, and the strawberry crop at Sadôn was very good.

216. Sinlumkaba has a very beautiful flower garden and English vegetables thrive. They must, however, be grown from seed imported yearly, otherwise they rapidly deteriorate. Fruit trees grow well, but the climate is too cold, and the fruit, which is freely produced, fails in many cases to ripen. Apples, pears and cherries are, however, successful, and the other less hardy trees are to be moved from Sinlumkaba to Lweje, which has a warmer and drier climate.

217. At Falam, Tiddim and Haka similarly abundance of fruit grows, but it rarely ripens. The Falam potato crop this year was excellent, and the Chins of the Northern Hills have taken kindly to the cultivation and get good crops. Some fine strawberries were grown at Falam, and an experiment on a small scale with barley was successful.

218. Taunggyi, which has hitherto been so successful with potatoes, experienced a reverse this year, the receipts from sales amounting to Rs. 2,400 only as against over Rs. 3,400 last year. Peaches, damsons and strawberries fruited well, and all manner of vegetables were produced in abundance. This garden, the most successful experimental garden in the province, is self-supporting, and serves an additional purpose, in that it supplies not only acclimatised trees and plants, but also trained gardeners to the other gardens.

219. Experiments in horticulture on a smaller scale are made yearly by Government by the distribution of seed to likely localities. During the year tobacco seed, ground-nut, vegetable seeds, *paspalum dilatum*, Australian *salt-bush*, Egyptian cotton-seed, China grass, Jerusalem artichoke, plantains, potatoes, beans, para-rubber, hemp, jute, wheat, sessamum and various kinds of paddy were distributed, but the experiments were not attended with any conspicuous success.

Forests.

Area reserved.

220. The area of reserved forest in Burma at the beginning of the year was 17,837 square miles. Fresh areas amounting to 962 square miles were added during the year, but as exclusions aggregating 71 square miles were made and correction of the area records in accordance with the results of forest surveys lately completed reduce the area of the reserves still further by 121 square miles, the total area of reserved forest has increased during the year to 18,607 square miles only.

221. At the end of the year some 532 square miles in the Southern circle, in respect of which preliminary notifications had issued, were in process of settlement, and 700 square miles already settled were awaiting final notification. In the Northern circle, similarly, 579 square miles were awaiting final notification and in

the Pegu circle 512 square miles were under settlement. In the Tenasserim circle 497 square miles were finally notified during the year, and of 120 square miles remaining to be settled at the beginning of the year, 98 square miles were settled as were also 56 square miles out of 84 proposed for settlement during the year, so that only 50 square miles now remain to be settled. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

222. During the year No. 20 Party, Burma Forest Survey, carried out operations in the Ataran and West Salween divisions of the Tenasserim circle and in the Toungoo division a Survey of India Party was at work surveying unreserved areas west of Toungoo. Survey maps on the 4-inch scale for 385 square miles of reserved forest were received. Surveys.

223. In the Southern circle the operations of the Forest Survey Department were continued in the Ruby Mines, Minbu, and Pyinmana divisions and a total of 695 square miles of detail survey on a 4-inch scale was completed and in addition linear traverses were executed over 571 miles and linear test surveys over 283 miles. Survey operations in the Northern circle were confined to the Chindwin drainage. No maps for this circle had been received at the close of the year, but the plans for the Kindat and Kampet reserves (188 square miles) were promised for October.

224. A small detachment under a surveyor made traverses over an area of 80 square miles in the Thayetmyo division of the Pegu circle and in all circles minor local surveys were carried out by Forest officers.

225. In the Pegu circle a working-plans party was constituted in Rangoon division in November in charge of an Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, but owing to changes and other causes, progress was unsatisfactory. Detailed preliminary working plans were submitted for the Magayi, Thèbyu, Hlaing, Yoma, Wanetchaung and Hmawbi reserves and these plans have now been sanctioned. Working plans.

226. Preliminary working plans have been drawn up for six forests in the Pegu division, for one in Thayetmyo and one in Bassein and those for three of the Pegu forests have already received sanction.

227. Preliminary working plans for the Tônyè, Thindawyo, Sitkwin and Satpôk forests have also been sanctioned by the Inspector-General of Forests. Plans of operations are in force over the whole forest area, 16,530 square miles.

228. In the Tenasserim circle regular working plans for the Pyuchaung and the Pyukwin reserves, an area of 449 square miles, were completed and the Working Plans party transferred from the Toungoo to the Shwegyin division where it undertook an examination some of 220 square miles of the Aungdônkwin reserve. Of the total reserved area of the circle, 4,645 square miles, there are still 3,009 square miles without regular or preliminary working-plans, but plans of operations are in force over the whole forest area of the circle, 33,994 square miles.

229. In the Northern circle the want of maps again delayed the preparation of working plans. A preliminary working plan based on valuation surveys has, however, been drawn up for all forests not already under prescribed working plans and dealing with an area of 19,646 square miles provides for an annual girdling of 20,000 trees.

230. In the Southern circle working-plans for the Ngalaik and Sinthè reserves, aggregating 231 square miles, have been finished during the year, that for the Yônbin reserve (127 square miles) has received the sanction of the Local Government, while those for reserves in the Pyinmana division, aggregating 366 square miles, are still awaiting the sanction of the Inspector-General of Forests, to whom a preliminary report for the Mèhaw and Tigyaing reserves also has been submitted. In spite of this progress, however, 3,596 square miles out of a total area of 4,582 square miles of reserves in the circle are still awaiting working plans. Preliminary plans have been drawn up for 64 square miles of teak forest in the Mawkme and Lawksawk States and valuation surveys over 482 acres in the Kēngtūng forest have been made during the year.

231. The total number of cases of breach of forest law fell to 2,290 as compared with 2,632 last year and an annual average of 2,607 for the preceding triennium. These cases arose—849 in the Pegu circle, 570 in the Tennaserim circle, Forest offences.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

540 in the Southern circle and 331 in the Northern circle. The proportion of cases among the four circles is much the same as in the previous year.

232. There were 88 cases of incendiarism, of which 36 were undetected including no less than 22 out of 24 cases in the Southern circle. The cases compounded amount to 1,511, and of 593 cases brought to Court 466 resulted in convictions. The offences were as a rule of a petty nature.

Fire-protection.

233. Fire-protection operations in Upper Burma were more successful this year. A larger area has been brought under protection and a greater extent of forest has been saved from fire in both the Northern and the Southern circles.

234. In the Southern circle 803 square miles were protected and 685 were saved from fire. In the Northern circle out of 1,699 square miles in which protection was attempted 1,552 square miles were successful. In the Tenasserim circle the area in which protection was attempted was 1,636 square miles as compared with 1,604 square miles last year and only 12 miles of the protected area were burnt. In the Pegu circle some 1,065 square miles were successfully protected out of 1,220 attempted. In the Pegu, Tenasserim and Southern circles the cost of protection per square mile was reduced.

Natural reproduction.

235. Improvement fellings, climber cutting and other works intended to aid natural reproduction were carried out on a somewhat larger scale than in the previous year, but much still remains to be done in this direction.

Plantations and experimental cultivation.

236. In the Pegu circle the extension of the teak and cutch *taungya* plantations was continued and amounted during the year to 802 acres for teak and 992 acres for cutch. The *Chavannesia* rubber plantation in the Rangoon division has been extended by some 40 acres.

237. In the Tenasserim circle the experiments with rubber have been continued on an extended scale, 772 acres of land having been cleared and 663 acres planted up with *Hevea* during the year. The area of the experimental garden has been extended by some 42 acres, and the Kambè Rubber plantation, Rangoon, which till now has been under the management of the Cantonment Committee, is being taken over by the Forest Department.

238. In the Southern circle the experimental plantation of pines, cypress and various fruit trees at Maymyo has been maintained and improved and various experiments on a small scale with pines, sandal-wood, *padauk*, *cisalpinia digyna* and *Acacia Verek* were made in other parts of the circle.

239. In the Northern circle experiments to assist natural reproduction were carried out in the Taungdwin, Shwegu and Mohnyin reserves. The *ficus elastica* plants in the last-named reserve have not been a success as the site is unsuitable.

Teak girdlings.

240. In the Pegu circle 12,934 girdlings were carried out. In the Tenasserim circle there were 12,110, in the Northern circle 21,845, and in the Southern circle 17,774 girdlings.

Extraction and sale of timber.

241. In the Pegu circle the departmental teak extractions amounted to 21,673 tons. Extractions by licensees amounted to 6,944 tons as against 4,780 tons last year. The Government teak extraction for the Tenasserim circle was 9,553 tons, a slight increase on last year's figures, while extractions to the amount of 14,236 tons were made by lessees and contractors. In the Northern circle Government extracted 24,109 tons of teak and lessees 33,544, while for the Southern circle the figures were 5,245 and 40,139 tons.

242. The total outturn of timber (including teak) from the Pegu circle forests, aggregated 1,11,638 tons. The amount of Government timber disposed of in that circle during the year was 29,648 tons, of which 28,703 were teak. The timber left on hand at the close of the year amounted to 41,885 tons. In the Rangoon depôt 26,030 tons of timber from Pegu circle were sold at prices varying from about Rs. 55 to Rs. 78-8-0 and averaging about Rs. 63 per ton. The expenditure incurred amounted to about Rs. 17-4-0 per ton and the average volume and expenditure per log were 67·6 cubic feet and Rs. 22-3-0. In addition to the timber from the Pegu circle some 5,228 tons from other circles were sold in Ran-

goon and there remained in the sale depôt at the close of the year 8,022 tons of timber, of which 7,971 tons were teak. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

243. The total outturn of timber from the Tenasserim circle was 121,041 tons against 118,243 tons in the previous year.

244. From the Northern circle the total outturn of timber was 133,333 tons, of which 70,924 tons were teak and 661 tons *padauk*; 112 tons of the latter wood were supplied to the Ordnance Department, Madras.

245. In the Southern circle the outturn of teak timber was 47,591 tons which is 60 *per cent.* below the figures for 1900-01. The decrease was mainly due to the expiry of a large timber purchase contract. The amount of timber other than teak extracted by Government was only 908 tons, but 77,615 tons of timber of inferior species were extracted by purchasers and 7,924 tons by right holders and free grantees.

Fuel and Minor produce.

246. The fuel outturn of the Pegu circle was 107,134 tons, of which over 20,000 tons were from reserves. That of the Tenasserim circle was 9,412 tons from reserves and 61,529 tons from un-reserved forests. In the Northern circle 21,872 tons were extracted from unclassed forest and 247 tons only from reserves, while in the Southern circle 15,895 tons were extracted from reserves and 102,803 from unclassed forests.

247. Cutch in the Pegu circle realized Rs. 12,840 as against Rs. 12,130 last year while in the Northern circle 130 and in the Southern Circle 393 tons were extracted. The cutch industry has for some years been on the decline, and the amendment of the rules regulating the issue of licenses is under construction.

Financial results.

248. The financial results of the year's working are shown in the following statement:—

Circle.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Proportion of surplus to gross revenue.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Per cent.
Pegu	22,68,690	8,15,324	14,53,366	64
Tenasserim	14,72,712	6,61 228	8,11,484	55
Northern	12,61,240	7,61,724	4,99,516	39
outhern	9,48,692	5,81,035	3,66,657	39
Total, 1901-02	59,51,334	28,20,311	31,31,023	53
Total, 1900-01	77,06,324	26,44,642	50,61,682	65
Difference 1901-02 ...	— 17,54,990	+1,75,669	—19,30,659	— 12

The figures quoted in Chapter V of this report are for the financial year ending 31st March 1902; those in the above statement are for the forest year ending 30th June 1902.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

249. The revenue was contributed under the following heads:—

Particulars.	1900-01.	1901-02.	Increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(*a*) From timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency.	31,51,950	26,44,801	— 5,07,149
From timber and other produce removed from the forests by lessees, consumers and purchasers. (*b*) Timber	35,11,071	24,14,755	— 10,96,316
(*c*) Firewood and charcoal ...	1,31,121	1,27,774	— 3,347
(*d*) Bamboos and canes ...	1,75,897	1,87,034	— 11,137
(*e*) Grazing and fodder grass.	2,316	1,585	+ 731
(*f*) Other minor produce ...	1,51,262	70,937	— 80,325
(*g*) Confiscated drift and waif wood	1,74,289	1,27,236	— 47,053
(*h*) Duty on foreign timber and other produce ...	3,07,141	2,67,019	— 40,122
(*i*) Miscellaneous	1,01,277	1,10,193	+ 8,916
Total ...	77,06,324	59,51,334	— 17,54,990

The falling off is mainly due to the large decrease in extraction of teak timber, especially in the Southern Circle.

250. The following table gives the figures of the export of teak since 1897-1898:—

Year.	From Moulmein.		From Rangoon.		Total.		Average value per ton.
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1897-98 ...	65,986	54,21,499	207,405	1,84,37,474	273,391	2,38,58,973	87·27
1898-99 ...	66,002	56,04,701	202,281	1,71,44,554	268,283	2,27,49,255	84·78
1899-00 ...	62,983	54,84,419	209,303	1,73,87,530	272,286	2,28,71,949	84·00
1900-01 ...	64,271	55,58,616	183,511	1,51,11,083	247,782	2,06,69,699	83·42
1901-02 ...	68,752	58,27,036	175,768	1,51,52,339	244,520	2,09,79,375	85·80

Forest School.

251. The Board of Control of the Burma Forest school have recommended that the school be placed under the Divisional Forest Officer, Tharrawaddy, that the number of students to be admitted annually be increased from 12 to 20, and that some improvements should be made in the system of examination, and in the supervision of the work of senior students. These measures await the sanction of the Government of India. Improvements have been made at the school by the construction of a museum and play-ground and a tube well.

General.

252. The Burma Forest Act 1902 has come into force during the year and supersedes the Lower Burma Forest Act and the Upper Burma Forest Regulation. Rules under the new Act are now under the consideration of Government.

253. The machinery for the Tannin Extract Factory in Rangoon arrived in December 1901, and is now working satisfactorily.

Mines and Quarries.

254. The royalty on output of petroleum increased from 4½ lakhs in 1900-01 to 7⅘ lakhs for the 15 months ending 30th June 1902. The two principal fields are that at Yenangyaung in the Magwe district, which yielded 37,482,935 gallons of oil valued at Rs. 22,46,408, and that at Yenangyat in the Pakôkku district, which produced 11,843,341 gallons valued at Rs. 7,39,194. The increase in production, which amounts in each case to about one-third as much again as last year, is due in the case of Yenangyat to the opening up of a new block No. 11 by the Burma Oil Company and there also as at Yenangyaung, to extended borings by the Company. In the extreme north of the Yenangyaung field a fresh deposit of oil was discovered. The oil is said to resemble the Yenangyat oil rather than that from Yenangyaung in that the flash point is extremely low—under 40° Fahrenheit. Petroleum has been produced from time immemorial in Kyaukpyu and Arakan, and there are two oil settlements in the Baronga Island, in both of which steam power is used for boring and extracting the oil. In one of these, however, the only good well fell in during the year and it has become necessary to bore new wells. The output from the whole area is gradually falling off. The total yield for 1902 was only 115,458 gallons, though the value, Rs. 45,993, was higher than in former years, owing to there having been a better demand for the crude oil. New concessions were applied for in the Shwebo and Thayetmyo districts. **Petroleum.**

255. The revenue from rubies is next in importance to that from petroleum. There was a substantial increase in the percentage on net profits paid by the Burma Ruby Mines Limited to Government. During 1901, 1,091,314 trucks of ruby earth were washed as compared with 949,292 in the previous year and stones to the weight of 230,811 carats, valued at Rs. 15,67,148 were found. A new mine was opened at Chaungzôn in January 1902 and so far the results, in spite of floods, have been entirely satisfactory. Arrangements are being made for starting another new mine, which will make the fifth, in the Talôktan quarter, Mogôk. The number of stones won by native miners is unknown, but judging by the increase in royalty it must have been considerable. In Myitkyina the receipt from fees for licenses for ruby-mining rose from Rs. 1,750 in 1900 to Rs. 4,225 in 1901, but the Nanyaseik ruby pocket was exhausted during the year and no new location has been discovered. In Katha, where a few rubies, diamonds, garnets and topazes were found in 1900, no stones of any value have been discovered lately. **Rubies.**

256. The output of gold extracted at the Kyaukpazat mine in the Katha district rose from 1,233 to 1,984 ounces valued at Rs. 1,14,100, but the mine is reported to be approaching exhaustion. Gold-washing on an extensive scale by modern methods is being initiated on the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy, but the work has not yet got beyond the experimental stage and figures are not available Prospectors are at work on the old Portuguese working in Tavoy, but as yet no considerable results have been attained. **Gold.**

257. Coal-mining was carried on with rather better success by the Burma Coal Mining Company, Limited, at the Letkôkbin collieries in Shwebo district, 12,469 tons of coal being extracted in 1901 as compared with 10,228 in 1900 and an average of 8,436 for the previous three years. The supply is at present limited only by the demand, but since the latter is restricted to the requirements of the Burma Railways Company it has been found necessary lately to reduce the output of coal by stopping work at night and also by reducing the number of hands employed, the daily average for 1901 being only 203 as against 279 last year. The Railway Company takes some 900 tons monthly and attempts are now being made to induce the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company to burn the coal on their steamers. **Coal.**

258. For tourmaline some 60 licenses were issued in the Ruby Mines district in 1901, but nothing of value was extracted and the same may be said of emery, for which the Ruby Mines Company took out a prospecting license. Plumbago was worked by the Company in the same district and Messrs. Findlay, Fleming and Company, who also held prospecting licenses, exported a small consignment to London, where, however, it was found to be without commercial value. **Other minerals.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

259. Mica is won in the same neighbourhood, but only 87 viss was extracted in 1901 and most of that is reported to have been unsaleable. The cessation of the troubles in China caused a revival in the jade industry in Myitkyina and a corresponding increase from Rs. 46,941 to Rs. 54,566 in royalties. Amber to the extent of 97 cwt. was extracted in the same district, but it was of poor quality and only realised Rs. 169 as against Rs. 1,540 for the 10 cwt. extracted in 1900.

260. There was a slight increase in the amount of steatite extracted in the Pakôkku and Minbu districts, the total amount being 41 tons valued at Rs. 11,498 as against 32 tons at Rs. 9,961 for 1900. The amount of tin extracted in Mergui was only 1,372 cwt. as against 2,059 last year, but prices were better, so that the value this year, Rs. 1,14,611, was only slightly less than that of last year, Rs. 1,26,329. A cyclone, which occurred early in the year, blocked every valley and road with fallen trees and caused a serious check to mining enterprise in Mergui. In Tavoy the output rose from 19 to 22½ cwt. and the value from Rs. 1,680 to Rs. 1,984.

Manufactures.

Principal industries.

261. At the 1901 census 136,628 women and girls were returned as cotton-weavers and there were probably many more to whom cotton-weaving was a subsidiary industry. Silk-carding, spinning and weaving by hand were at the census entered as the principal occupations of 5,973 men and 18,316 females. Workers in gold, silver and precious stones numbered over 42,000; the demand for work by competent men is increasing. There is also a small industry in brass work. Pottery entirely supported nearly 20,000 persons and there were also large numbers engaged in the industry who support themselves principally by agriculture or brick-making. The earthenware produced has, as a rule, little artistic merit. Brick-making, mat-weaving, the manufacture of cheroots and *ngapi*, the extraction of sessamum oil and the manufacture of salt, cutch and lacquer are all native industries of some importance. Nearly 19,000 persons were dependent on the manufacture of wooden and felt sandals, the ordinary foot-wear outside the large towns. The extraction of earth oil and its manufacture into various products employed 3,330 persons. There were ninety-seven rice-mills and fifty-eight saw-mills in the Province.

Factories.

262. The number of factories which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, increased from 150 in 1900 to 172 in 1901. There was an increase of 14 in the number of rice-mills registered. Eleven more factories were at work in Rangoon town than in the previous year. There was a corresponding rise in the number of operatives employed. More women and fewer children were included in the total. The sanitary arrangements were not always what they should have been: in Tharrawaddy district especially, where two owners were prosecuted, the saw-mills seem to have been in an unsatisfactory state. The general health of the operatives, including women and children, is reported to have been good. Wages in factories correspond more or less closely with wages paid to similar classes elsewhere than in factories. The condition of the operatives is favourably reported on. The work allotted to women and children is light and their employment appears to be in no way open to objection; the numbers employed are small. Fencing is adequately provided for. There were only four fatal accidents as against seven in each of the two previous years. The most serious accident was the explosion of a piston in the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company's dockyard, resulting in the death of three men and the injury of six more. The Engineer in charge had received the notice, circulated at the instance of the Government of India, suggesting that, when hollow portions of machinery, such as pistons, are heated, holes should be drilled to prevent explosion, but this necessary precaution was omitted. Two prosecutions in Rangoon were undertaken for failure to give notice of the opening of a factory. The question of Sunday labour and of enforcing the compulsory weekly holiday in native-owned factories was under consideration. There are difficulties owing to the system in force, especially in rice-mills, of employing the same coolies both inside and outside the mills.

Commercial Marine.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

263. The number of vessels and the aggregate tonnage engaged in the sea-borne trade of the province in each of the past three years were as follows :— **Total shipping.**

	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1899-1900	6,223	4,147,646
1900-1901	6,500	4,506,364
1901-1902	6,455	4,717,827

In 1901-02 the distribution among the various ports of vessels and tonnage was as follows: Rangoon 2,597 vessels and 3,452,486 tons; Akyab 878 vessels and 416,043 tons; Moulmein 1,500 vessels and 543,568 tons; Bassein 54 vessels and 112,125 tons; and the smaller ports 1,426 vessels and 193,605 tons.

264. There was a falling off of about 66 lakhs in the aggregate value of foreign imports due to a considerable decline in the imports of cotton, silk and woollen piece-goods and cotton twist and yarn. Exports, however, showed an increase in value over 52 lakhs due to increases of 13 lakhs in raw cotton and of 64 lakhs in rice and paddy. There was a considerable decrease in the exports of cutch, hides and teak. In all 958 steamers and sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 1,558,655, entered from, and cleared to, foreign countries. The steamer tonnage was 97 per cent. of the whole. No steamers left in ballast. Of the 107 sailing vessels which entered only 62 found cargoes for foreign countries and three left in ballast. Of the 958 vessels mentioned 138 were foreign, principally Austrian, German and Norwegian. The *German East African Line* have initiated a service between Rangoon, Réunion, and ports on the East Coast of Africa with promising results. **Foreign trade.**

265. The value of the coasting trade declined by 297 lakhs principally in imports from Madras, Indian ports not British and provincial ports. The imports of coal from Bengal increased in value by 7½ lakhs. The provincial coasting export trade declined during the year under report in consequence of over-trading in the previous year. The number of vessels employed in the coasting trade was 2,936 with an aggregate tonnage of 1,679,225 tons as against 2,964 with an aggregate tonnage of 1,640,907 in 1900-01. Most of these, namely, 1,807 vessels with a tonnage of 1,623,067, were steamers. Two thousand nine hundred and fifty-four vessels of a tonnage of 1,600,511 cleared from Burma ports during the year, of which 457 vessels of 56,398 tons cleared in ballast. The bulk of the coasting trade was in the hands of British shipping firms, who dealt with 92·40 per cent. of it; British Indian shipping firms dealt with 1·10 per cent.; foreign firms dealt with 4·19 per cent.; and native craft carried 2·28 per cent. The foreign Indian portion was 0·03 per cent. only. **Coasting trade.**

266. There was an increase of one and a decrease of 13 in the number of vessels arriving at, and departing from, Rangoon respectively, but the tonnage entered was 162,818 more and the tonnage cleared 122,447 more than last year. There has been of recent years a noticeable increase in the size and tonnage of the steamers visiting the port. **Rangoon.**

267. There were 18 accidents to vessels in the Rangoon harbour, mostly of minor importance, as against 19 in the previous year. The P.S. *Ava* took fire in the harbour owing to an explosion in the oil-fuel tank and was partially burnt. The S.S. *Pindari* collided with the P.V. *Guide* whilst picking up a pilot. The S.S. *Kasara* collided with a Burmese paddy-boat near Middle Point, Rangoon River. The S. S. *Chupra* grounded slightly on the Middle bank at Elephant Point: at the enquiry the pilot was acquitted of blame. The brig *Fathal Bari* touched the ground at Liffey Sands owing to the failure of the wind at a critical moment, and the S.S. *Madura* struck the bank at Monkey Point in a fog which came on suddenly. Enquiries were not held in these cases. At Akyab the British India mail steamer *Karagola* while discharging barrels of oil from Rangoon caught fire on the 20th April 1901. All efforts to suppress the flames were futile and three passengers were burnt to death. The Court of Enquiry was unable to attach blame to any one for the accident. The S.S. *Virawa* grounded in the **Wrecks and casualties.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Lady Clifford Channel, Moulmein, whilst in pilotage charge. The pilot was warned to be more careful. No casualties occurred at Bassein or the smaller ports.

Marine surveys and tidal observations.

268. The resurvey of the whole of the Rangoon River, which was commenced in October 1900, was completed in the year of report, and in addition to this work surveys were made of the Spit Channel and Middle Bank and monthly examinations of the Choki Lumps, Monkey Point and Hastings Channels. No marine surveys were undertaken by the Marine Survey of India. The river lights have worked satisfactorily during the year. At Moulmein the River Survey staff issued five charts, 94 pilot notices and 90 sketches of bars owing to the many and sudden changes in the river. Automatic tidal observations with a self-registering tide-gauge were continued at Rangoon and were commenced at Bassein in the new minor tidal observatory. Personal observations were taken by means of a tide pole daily at Akyab and Moulmein. Some slight damage was done to the apparatus in Rangoon by the cyclone of the 6th May 1902, but it was promptly repaired.

Light-houses and Light-vessels.

269. The R.I.M.S. *Dalhousie* visited the light-houses regularly throughout the year. Both the China Buckeer and Alguada Reef light-houses were completed during the year and lights exhibited. The Alguada light is slightly out of centre; this will be rectified. An extension of the landing-place and a large scale survey with levels for a dock are in hand. It is proposed to abolish the light at Amherst Point and place a new light on Green Island: the light on Double Island may then perhaps be also abolished. The matter is under consideration in the Public Works Department. The necessary preliminary work for the light-house on Beacon Island has been carried out. A jetty with appliances for landing the light-house material is to be pushed on. A new beacon erected on Oyster Reef was completed on the 8th March 1902. It is a great improvement on the former buoy, which has been removed. There was one death from opium-poisoning on the relief light-vessel *Martaban* and 15 cases of beri-beri, of which three proved fatal. It is now proposed to relieve the light-ships' crews monthly between January and April each year, as that is the time the disease is most prevalent and the men attacked are usually men who have been more than a month on board. The receipts from light dues advanced from Rs. 3,65,760 to Rs. 3,69,916. The total receipts, including sale of condemned stores and contribution by the Port Commissioners toward the Spit light-vessel, amounted to Rs. 3,74,677. The total expenditure, including Public Works Department expenditure (Rs. 16,119) other than capital, amounted to Rs. 1,39,294.

Pilot service.

270. The Rangoon Pilot Service consisted of 12 1st grade and two 3rd grade pilots, one 4th grade pilot, two probationers and four special pilots. The Pilot Fund opened the year with a credit balance of Rs. 1,25,812 and closed with a credit balance of Rs. 1,32,287. An addition of Rs. 5,000 was made to the reserve fund, which now stands at Rs. 57,500. The gross pilotage earnings were Rs. 2,46,544, or Rs. 20,089 better than those of the previous year. The amount disbursed to the pilots was Rs. 1,51,621. At Moulmein there were seven European pilots and two special European pilots in charge of local steamers. Two new men were admitted to replace one man retired and one deceased. One pilot was reduced from the 1st to the 2nd grade for six months for improperly throwing up pilotage charge of a barque. The gross earnings for the year were Rs. 38,730, giving an average for each 1st grade pilot of Rs. 596 a month against Rs. 509 last year. At Akyab the pilotage work was shared by three pilots, a third man having joined in January 1902. They earned Rs. 15,100 or Rs. 6,404 less than in the previous year owing to a decrease in the tonnage of the vessels entering the port. At Bassein three Europeans, one Eurasian and one Asiatic pilot were employed. The first four earned Rs. 18,972 and the last earned Rs. 1,696.

Rangoon Port Funds.

271. The Rangoon Port Trust opened the year with a credit balance of Rs. 5,60,999. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 15,07,263 and the total expenditure to Rs. 14,25,519, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 6,42,743. The income was four-fifths of a lakh in advance of the previous year's income. The improvement was common to all heads of revenue and was due to the general expansion of trade. The expenditure included Rs. 1,76,835 spent on new works. The Port Health Department cost Rs. 1,33,804, of which Government contributed

Rs. 88,181, being two-thirds of the cost of plague precautionary measures. The administration of the Trust has been re-organized by the appointment of a whole-time Chairman and Chief Engineer, two Assistant Engineers and a Secretary, and a scheme for the improvement and extension of the port estimated to cost 92½ lakhs has been generally approved by Government. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

272. The total income (excluding debt accounts) of the six minor port funds amounted to Rs. 2,69,867, being an advance of Rs. 32,905 over the income of the previous year. The expenditure aggregated Rs. 2,86,005 as against Rs. 1,73,396. **Minor port funds.**

Sea-borne Trade.

273. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the province amounted to Rs. 36,14,18,586, of which Rs. 32,78,75,816 represented private trade, and the balance Rs. 3,35,42,770, transactions on account of Government. **General.**

In 1900-01 the value of this trade had reached the abnormally high total of Rs. 41,69,16,015, of which Rs. 35,84,06,210 was private, and Rs. 5,85,09,805 Government traffic.

The figures for 1901-02, though considerably below those for the previous year, are much above the average of earlier years, and indicate a steady growth in the sea-borne trade.

274. The two main causes for the decline this year in the volume of private trade have been the excessive importations of goods of European manufacture in the preceding year, and the less demand for food grains in India in consequence of the famine having passed its worst stage. There was a slight improvement both in exports to Europe and in imports of goods of Indian manufacture. The following is a comparative table of the trade of Rangoon and other ports in Burma from 1866-1867 onwards, transactions on behalf of Government being omitted :—

Year.	Rangoon.			Other Ports.			Total for the province.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1866-1867 ...	1,74,95,330	1,18,80,320	2,93,75,650	80,57,520	1,12,60,300	1,93,17,820	2,55,52,850	2,31,40,620	4,86,93,470
1871-1872 ...	2,28,11,560	2,39,71,550	4,57,83,110	87,68,300	1,48,30,620	2,35,98,920	3,15,79,860	3,78,02,170	6,93,82,030
1876-1877 ...	3,66,21,660	3,39,16,470	7,05,38,130	1,04,72,380	2,12,50,070	3,17,22,450	4,70,94,040	5,51,66,540	10,22,60,580
1881-1882 ...	5,05,00,560	4,73,42,340	9,78,42,900	1,33,49,280	3,32,29,070	4,65,78,350	6,38,49,840	8,05,71,410	14,44,21,250
1886-1887 ...	6,34,26,350	5,67,65,120	12,01,91,470	1,36,36,400	3,01,51,260	4,37,87,660	7,70,62,750	8,69,16,380	16,39,79,130
1891-1892 ...	9,02,87,895	9,00,82,192	18,03,70,087	1,47,18,352	3,66,39,686	5,13,58,038	10,50,06,247	12,67,21,878	23,17,28,125
1896-1897 ...	8,26,31,305	10,87,42,153	19,13,73,458	1,62,78,246	3,69,80,736	5,32,58,982	9,89,09,551	14,57,22,889	24,46,32,440
1897-1898 ...	9,78,41,547	12,47,00,056	22,25,41,603	1,66,51,475	3,88,61,837	5,55,13,312	11,44,93,022	16,35,61,893	27,80,54,915
1898-1899 ...	9,93,69,603	12,12,21,655	22,05,91,258	1,74,38,801	4,34,45,787	6,08,84,588	11,68,08,404	16,46,67,442	28,14,75,846
1899-1900 ...	9,87,47,716	14,48,50,538	24,35,98,254	2,74,17,728	4,15,83,902	6,87,01,630	12,58,65,444	18,64,34,440	31,22,99,884
1900-1901 ...	11,79,16,385	16,53,95,146	28,33,11,531	2,64,15,151	4,86,79,528	7,50,94,679	14,43,31,536	21,40,74,674	35,84,06,210
1901-1902 ...	11,16,68,862	14,66,17,278	25,82,86,140	2,72,61,787	4,23,27,889	6,95,89,676	13,89,30,649	18,89,45,167	32,78,75,816

275. Little change has taken place in the comparative amount of the trade at the different ports. **Trade of the several ports.**

The total value of merchandise and treasure imported into and exported from Rangoon amounted to Rs. 11,16,68,862 and Rs. 14,66,17,278 respectively, as compared with Rs. 11,79,16,385 and Rs. 16,53,95,146 in the year 1900-01.

Next to Rangoon, the two ports with largest trade are Moulmein and Akyab. There was a slight decline in both exports and imports of merchandise proper in Moulmein, but owing to large imports of treasure from coasting ports the total trade increased slightly from Rs. 3,09,15,828 to Rs. 3,18,71,513. In Akyab the value of imports fell from Rs. 1,11,85,131 to Rs. 1,03,82,437 and of exports from Rs. 1,72,36,511 to Rs. 1,42,32,791. Practically the whole of the import trade and some two-thirds of the export trade is with Rangoon and Indian ports. Bassein is the only other port in which the total trade amounts annually to more than 25 lakhs in value. The value of the trade here declined from Rs. 1,05,03,278 to Rs. 73,56,241 in consequence of smaller shipments of rice to Europe.

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Import trade.

276. The foreign imports of private merchandise amounted in value to Rs. 6,21,36,778 and coasting imports to Rs. 6,57,09,858, a total of Rs. 12,78,46,636 as compared with Rs. 13,54,73,050, of which Rs. 6,86,87,833 represented foreign imports and Rs. 6,67,85,217 imports coastwise in 1900-01.

To account for the decline in foreign trade there was a large falling off in the imports of cotton and silk piece-goods, more particularly the European supply of the latter, of cotton twist and yarn, of hardware and cutlery, of woollen goods and of apparel generally. Owing to the heavy shipments of these goods in the previous year, the local markets were temporarily overstocked and the quantity imported decreased in consequence. Imports of coal from the United Kingdom showed a decline of 3·6 per cent. but larger supplies were received from Australia and Japan. An increase of some nine lakhs in the value of oil imported was due principally to large supplies received from New York during the year. The coasting trade in articles of European manufacture decreased in sympathy with the decline in foreign imports. An improvement was noticeable in imports of cotton yarns of Indian manufacture and of cheap silks from Bengal and Bombay.

Export trade.

277. Private exports amounted in value to Rs. 18,74,47,200 of which Rs. 10,54,69,386 was foreign and Rs. 8,19,77,814 coasting trade. The figures were Rs. 10,03,62,647 and Rs. 11,06,58,686 respectively in 1900-01, showing a total of Rs. 21,10,21,333. The quantity of rice, husked and unhusked, exported to countries other than India, increased from 1,071,345 tons to 1,213,099 tons and of rice-bran from 127,340 tons to 141,744 tons. The increase was the result of a good harvest and smaller shipments to India, the quantity shipped to Indian ports showing a decrease from 1,082,464 tons to 735,490 tons. The decrease was due, as noted above, to the smaller demand for food grains in the famine-affected areas in India. The value of gram and pulses exported to India fell from the same cause from Rs. 47,36,836 to Rs. 17,33,127.

278. More liberal supplies of cotton and a better demand for foreign markets led to an increase from 20,564 cwt. to 76,922 cwt. in the quantity sent abroad and to a slight decline in coasting trade.

279. The foreign export of teak timber fell from 71,192 tons to 58,012 tons in consequence of the smaller supplies of timber in the market, resulting from a bad floating season and other causes, and coasting exports fell from 123,416 tons to 117,702 tons. Limited supplies only of cutch of good quality were available and there was a marked decrease in shipments under this head. Larger shipments of locally refined kerosene oil were sent to Bengal and paraffine wax to the value of some 9½ lakhs of rupees was exported to countries outside India.

Inland Trade.

Trade Registration.

280. There were 29 stations for the registration of inland trade open at the end of the year. Two offices, Yewun and Kumè road in Kyauksè district, were closed as the traffic was inconsiderable and a new office was opened at Kawludo in Salween district, to register a portion of the trade with Cheingmai and Karenni. The aggregate value of merchandise imported amounted to Rs. 94,67,190 against Rs. 80,31,701 in the previous year, and of timber and treasure Rs. 44,41,484 and Rs. 49,60,392 compared with Rs. 47,02,752 and Rs. 51,22,878 respectively in the year 1900-01. The increase in merchandise was with Western China and Zimmè. Exports of merchandise rose in value from Rs. 1,28,59,419 to Rs. 1,32,18,429. The trade with China increased by more than 11 lakhs, but this was partly counterbalanced by a decline in the exports to other States.

Value.

The amount of treasure exported was somewhat less than 36½ lakhs in each year.

Siam.

281. Owing to difficulties of communication the trade between Southern Burma and Siam continued unimportant. There was a slight improvement in import traffic, chiefly in cattle, but a decline of more than a lakh of rupees in the value of piece-goods exported. The causes which affected adversely the timber trade generally led to a decrease from 25½ to 20 lakhs in the value of timber imported from Karenni.

Western China.

282. Imports of merchandise from Western China amounted in value to Rs. 28,97,351 as compared with Rs. 15,77,642 in 1900-01 and Rs. 11,32,836 in

1899-00. Imports of treasure have increased during the same period from Rs. 8,21,854 to Rs. 16,88,395. The most rapid development has been under the heads of raw silk, ponies, orpiment, silver and hides. The growth during the past year is believed to be partly due to the diversion of a portion of the trade owing to disturbances in south-east China. The trade routes are also being improved, illegal exactions abolished and regular customs dues introduced. The export trade in Indian yarns, European piece-goods, silver and dried fish is growing rapidly, the aggregate value of all merchandise exported to Western China having risen from Rs. 28,22,087 to Rs. 39,53,587. Practically the whole of the trade on this side of the frontier is centred in Bhamo.

Shan States.

283. Imports of merchandise from the Northern Shan States fell from Rs. 33,13,973 to Rs. 28,79,173, and increased in the Southern Shan States from Rs. 24,66,826 to Rs. 26,07,660. The decrease was due to a dull market for pickled tea in Mandalay resulting in a decline of $6\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees in the value of imports of this produce. The value of exports to the Northern Shan States (Rs. 40,66,744) is some $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs below the previous year's figures. There was a satisfactory improvement in the quality of European yarns and piece-goods exported and the decrease was entirely due to the fact that smaller quantities of material were sent up for the construction of the Mandalay-Lashio railway. In the Southern Shan States there was less demand for manufactured silk and other articles and the value of exports to these States fell from Rs. 38,74,558 to Rs. 37,42,338. The value of the traffic *vid* Maymyo with the Northern States was 49 lakhs by road and 20 lakhs by rail in the year 1900-01, and during the past year 27 lakhs by road and 37 lakhs rail-borne. A survey of the projected railway to Taunggyi in the Southern Shan States has been carried out during the year.

Public Works.

Military Works.

284. The artesian well for the supply of water to British troops in Rangoon, commenced last year on a site at the Commissariat godown in Godwin road, was completed. It has not proved satisfactory, and another well has been proposed at a site where success appears certain.

Late in the year funds were allotted and some materials collected for—

(*a*) Quarters for 11 Harbour and Coast Defence lascars at the head-quarters of the Royal Garrison Artillery, Rangoon.

(*b*) Institute and liquor bar for the Royal Garrison Artillery, Rangoon. These buildings will take the place of the present buildings which are unsuitable and dilapidated.

(*c*) Station Family Hospital for British troops, Rangoon.

(*d*) Mess-house for British Infantry Officers, Rangoon. This building will replace the original one, which was destroyed by fire on the 21st December 1901.

Mat ceilings were provided to the Military buildings at Kēngtūng.

At Mandalay mess-houses for two Native Infantry regiments, begun in the past year, were completed and handed over for occupation. They provide accommodation to scale authorized. Quarters for a British Officer of Burma Sappers and Miners and for the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General of the staff were also completed. Quarters were built on the authorized scale for a Sub-Conductor.

All the platforms fixed in the moat at Mandalay were lengthened to permit of access to deeper and purer water for drinking purposes. Simple surface drains cut in the natural soil were found to be an insufficient system of drainage in the British Infantry lines, Fort Dufferin, and a complete system of masonry drains was sanctioned and about two-thirds of the work completed. A drainage culvert through the north-east moat providing an escape large enough to pass a maximum fall of 4 inches in an hour from the whole north-east quarter of Fort Dufferin was completed. The old Burmese escape was too small, and its inability to pass off drainage quickly caused serious inundation within the fort.

The Mounted Infantry stables at Bhamo, which were handed over to the Native Mountain Battery, were lengthened 90 feet to suit requirements.

The preparation of a site for British Infantry lines at Maymyo was begun.

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The improvements to, and completion of, the defences of Fort Dufferin by replacing some of the old Burmese wooden gates with modern bullet-proof steel gates and blocking up others were half-finished.

Work progressed on the construction of quarters for the Officer Commanding a wing of British Infantry at Meiktila. The piped water-supply for Meiktila Cantonment was completed and has proved satisfactory. A timber pile bridge over the Mu Canal escape in Shwebo Cantonment was in progress. Two experimental borings were made in Shwebo Cantonment with a view to obtaining a supply of pure water for the troops at that station. Both borings tapped artesian water, but the tubes broke before a free flow could be obtained. An estimate has been submitted to provide for a third experiment.

CIVIL WORKS—CIVIL BUILDINGS.

Forest. 285. At Maymyo quarters for the Conservators of Forests, Northern and Southern Circles, were completed. At Mogôk quarters for the Deputy Conservator of Forests, and at Myanaung quarters and an office for the Forest Subdivisional officer, were completed.

Customs. 286. At Mergui a combined Customs office and godown was under construction.

Post offices. 287. A combined post and telegraph office was completed in the Pazundaung suburb of Rangoon. At Maymyo a new post office with quarters for the Postmaster and menial establishment was nearly completed. Materials were collected for the construction of a post office at Kampelet (Mount Victoria), the new headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent of the Pakôkku Chin Hills.

Telegraphs. 288. A telegraph office was constructed at Maymyo. Besides the usual quarters for the Telegraph Master and signallers, the building provides an office for the Assistant Superintendent of Telegraphs. For the latter officer permanent quarters were also built. At Myitkyina a telegraph office was nearly completed.

Administration. 289. Additional generating plant for the electric light installation at Government House, Rangoon, was provided. For Government House, Mandalay, an electric light installation was completed. The former "Ladies Club" at Maymyo was taken over as an adjunct to Government House, Maymyo, while the dormitories of the old club were dismantled and re-erected on a new site as quarters for camp clerks.

Quarters were provided for the Commissioner, Arakan Division, at Akyab. Quarters for Superintendents of Land Records were completed at Ma-ubin and Myingyan, and nearly completed at Meiktila. Quarters for the Treasury Officer at Mogôk were half completed. Quarters for the Civil Subdivisional Officer at Taunggyi were completed.

The re-roofing of the Commissioner's court-house, Moulmein, was in progress. At Kampelet (Mount Victoria) a permanent court-house was well forward.

A survey school at Mônywa was in progress; the Survey school and Land Records office at Shwebo were completed and a Land Records office at Sagaing, commenced.

Second class record-rooms were completed at Mergui, Myingyan and Shwebo; two third class at Sagaing and one at Thayetmyo. Intermediate class record-rooms were completed at Magwe and Pakôkku. Second class record-rooms were in progress at Mônywa and Kindat, and a third class record-room at Taunggyi. Iron racks were fitted in the new second class record-rooms at Meiktila and Yamèthin.

Treasure-vaults were completed at 12 stations and were in progress at 6 other stations.

Educational. 290. In the Rangoon College compound a separate building for educational and hostel purposes of the college proper was practically completed.

Certain additions and alterations to the schools for sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi were in progress. Certain alterations to the Government Anglo-Vernacular school at Minbu were carried out.

Ecclesiastical. 291. The work on the memorial church in Fort Dufferin according to Mr. Street's modified design was resumed but stopped by order of His Excellency the Viceroy pending his approval of a modified design. The work is now still further in abeyance owing to the proposed removal of British troops to Mandalay Hill and

Maymyo. At Minbu and Myingyan small Anglican churches were built, Government contributing to both works.

The fence wall of the new cemetery at Maymyo was completed and the raising of the wall of the cemetery at Moulmein was in progress.

Law and Justice.

292. Quarters were completed for the Headquarters Assistant Commissioners at Henzada and Pakôkku and for the Assistant Commissioner at Maymyo; nearly completed for the Assistant Commissioner at Henzada, and completed for the Civil Subdivisional Officer at Shwebo.

The extension of the court accommodation at Bassein was completed; additional accommodation in the district court-house at Moulmein was in progress; an upper storey was added to the district court-house, Toungoo; the district court-house, Thayetmyo, was completed.

A court-house was completed for the Subdivisional Officer at Buthidaung. At Kamaing a building accommodating a subdivisional court and circuit-rooms, and at Sadôn a building accommodating a court-room and office, were completed.

A combined court-house for a Subdivisional Officer and two Myoôks was completed at Myingyan and another at Pakôkku; also an Honorary Magistrate's Court at Mergui.

Myoôk's court-houses were completed at six stations and were in progress at two other stations.

Jails.

293. Quarters for the Superintendent of the Central Jail at Mandalay were completed.

For the Rangoon Jail a new sale-room was constructed and the Press buildings were extended. In the Insein jail four work-sheds were extended by 75 feet each. The water-supplies for the Bassein and Myaungmya Jails were completed. At Myaungmya quarters for two Assistant Jailors were completed and other works were in progress.

The new jail at Mergui was well forward. The collection of materials for a new jail at Moulmein was started. Certain improvements to the Toungoo jail were in progress.

Necessary additions and alterations were made to the jails at Thayetmyo, Magwe, Myingyan, Pagan and Pakôkku.

Police.

294. Quarters were completed for the District Superintendent of Police, Sandoway, and good progress was made with the construction of quarters for the Battalion Commandant at Shwebo. Quarters were completed for the Police Subdivisional Officers at Henzada and Myingyan, for Inspectors at Ma-ubin, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Myaungmya and Taungup, for a European Head Constable at Bassein, and were under construction for European Inspectors at Moulmein and Kampelet.

For Rangoon Town Police quarters were completed for the Superintendent, Eastern division, Inspectors of the Taunglônbyan and Botataung guards, and the European Head Constables at Mogul street. For Mandalay Town Police additional accommodation was provided.

For Civil Police additional barracks were constructed at Twante, Henzada, Sandoway, Thinyogan, Bassein and Sagaing, and barracks and cottages at Tavoy. Permanent buildings were provided to complete accommodation for the full strength at Thayetmyo and additional permanent buildings at Magwe. Semi-permanent quarters were completed at Meiktila and semi-permanent cottages at Kindat.

A number of police-stations both in Upper and Lower Burma were taken in hand. Most of these were completed.

295. For Military Police barracks were completed at Kyunpyathat and were in progress at Buthidaung. Materials were partly collected for barracks at Kēngtūng. Quarters for a company of Military Police at Wankot were in progress. At Thazi semi-permanent quarters were completed, and additional permanent quarters at Pyawbwè. Temporary barracks were completed at Yinmabin and were in progress at Thamanthi. Semi-permanent accommodation for the headquarters of the Chindwin Battalion was completed at Mônywa, and similar buildings were in progress at Homalin. For the headquarters of the Shwebo Battalion additional temporary accommodation was provided. Good progress was made in the construction of additional buildings at Kampelet. The reconstruction of the Military Police lines at Mogôk was completed, and the reconstruction of the Military Police

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buildings at Lashio half completed. At Kutkai post the old buildings were being replaced by new ones. The outpost at Sinlum, burnt down in 1901, was rebuilt. Permanent outposts at Lwejee, Paukhan and Warrabum in the Bhamo district were nearly completed, and materials collected for a similar outpost at Alawpum in the same district and also for semi-permanent barracks at Katha.

296. Materials were collected for buildings for temporary occupation as frontier outposts for 30 men at Laukhum, Waingmaw and Talawgyi on the Myitkyina-Chinese frontier. Similar buildings to accommodate 50 men were finished at Lôntôn. At Sima materials were collected for a gun-park in the fort.

Medical.

297. Quarters were completed for the Civil Surgeons at Sandoway and Pakôkku.

A third class civil hospital was under construction at Minhla, a fourth class civil hospital was practically completed at Amherst; materials were collected for a fourth class civil hospital at Pyawbwè; a fifth class civil hospital was completed at Paungbyin and a similar building at Pauk. Certain additions were made to the civil hospital at Yamèthin.

Miscellaneous.

298. A District Officer's Inspection bungalow was built at Cheduba and a circuit-house at Mergui.

Quarters for three Superintending Engineers and Public Works Department clerks at Maymyo were completed. Quarters were also completed at Bhamo for the Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department; at Shwebo for the Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer; at Katha for the Public Works Department Upper Subordinate, and at Maymyo and Shwebo for the Public Works Department Accountants.

A fire-proof record-room for three Superintending Engineers' offices at Maymyo was completed; also a combined subdivisional office and store godown at that station.

At Bemè and Twingôn, in the Magwe district, combined offices and quarters were commenced for two clerks, whose duty it is to check the output of oil from the district.

In connection with the Myitkyina Defence Scheme bricks for the construction of block-houses were manufactured by order of the Local Government.

At Rangoon, among other works, additional accommodation was provided for the Government Printing Press by adding another storey to the building; a Magnetic Observatory at Kôkkaing, and artizans' barracks and cook-houses at Dala Dockyard to replace old buildings.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Metalled roads.

299. At Rangoon the metalling of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the Prome road from the junction of Upper Insein road to the 15th mile-post was completed; also the extension of Voyle road to the junction of Boundary and Tiger Alley roads. The Kemmendine road from Pagoda gate to Godwin road was improved and widened. At Tharrawaddy the widening of the Prome road between Thayetmyo and Thônzè, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the reconstruction of four old bridges on the Minhla-Letpadan road were completed. Eleven other old bridges on the Minhla-Letpadan road were renewed. A bridge was built over the Myolaichaung at the 2nd mile of the Gyobingauk-Myodwin road. An inspection bungalow was built at Kyônpyaw in the Bassein district.

300. The first section of the road from Toungoo to Thandaung was partly improved and metalled. The renewal of bridges on the third section of the Pegu-Toungoo road was completed. A cart-road from Kywèbwè Railway station to the Sittang river was approaching completion. The road from Penwègôn Railway station to Ananbaw on the Sittang river was in progress. Metalling of the Thazi-Taunggyi road was being completed and bridges renewed. Inspection bungalows on this road were under construction at Hlaingdet, Wetpyuyè and Thamakan. The Lônglôn-Zalut road and the road from the Maliwun village to the tin mines of the Jellabu Mining and Trading Company were practically completed. The Thatôn-Zinmathwè road was provided with a 6-inch layer of stone metal on account of heavy traffic. Delone metal consolidation progressed on the road between Nyaunglèbin and Pyuntaza. The Hlègu-Paunggyi road was in progress.

301. At Maymyo additional necessary station roads were completed and the swamp drain crossed by a masonry bridge of 15 feet span. The metalling of the Ruby Mines road was completed and the road is now open to traffic at all seasons of the year. The inspection bungalow on this road at Kabaing was completed. Metal was collected for paths of the Singôn-Wuntho and Singôn-Kawlin roads. A cart-road suspension bridge of 135 feet span over the Namtu river at Hsenwi, which is being erected from funds provided by the North Hsenwi *Sawbwa,* was nearly completed.

302. The Twingôn-Yenangyaung-Thittabwè road was in progress. The extension to Kyauk-o, about 2 miles of the road from Minbu to the steamer-landing, was completed. The Pyinmana-Lèwe road was provided with a 3-inch coat of metal throughout and an additional 6-inch coat was in progress. A feeder road from the Myingyan-Meiktila road to Yegyo Railway station was in progress. Gravel collection on the Mônywa-Yinmabin road and the earthwork on the Mônywa-Kyaukka road were completed.

303. New roads and culverts and metalling station roads at Taunggyi progressed. Metal for the Bhamo Circular road was partly collected and timber bridges completed. The collection and consolidation of metal on the station roads at Myitkyina and Mogaung were partly carried out. A new road from the Civil lines to the Military Police lines at Shwebo was practically completed.

Unmetalled roads.

304. The second and third sections of the cart-road from Kawkareik to Myawaddy progressed, also a bridle-path from Wagaru to Yè. A road was partly traced from Nyatkyizin to the Amherst district boundary. The construction of the Yenyin-Kyetwethaung road, 15 miles in length, was commenced and most of the earthwork and bridges completed. The first 9 miles of the first section of the Pa-an-Hlaing bwè road were nearly completed. On the Martaban-Kyaikto road necessary improvements were completed and new inspection bungalows built at Bilin and Theinzeik. Renewal of bridges on the Pyuntaza-Kadot road was practically completed. Only metalling remained to be done on the road from Kawa to Ôhnè. The road from Ywathit Railway station to Kyungyaung, on the old Pegu-Toungoo road, was completed and renewal of bridges on the Toungoo Frontier road nearly so. An inspection bungalow at Pathichaung, in the Toungoo district, was in progress. The Hopôn-Mông Pawn road was improved. A survey of a cart-road from Wanpôn to Takaw progressed and another survey from Taunggyi to Kēngtūng was completed. The construction of the road from Taunggyi to Napôk progressed, also inspection bungalows at Hopôn and Mong Pawn on that road.

305. The Pioneer Mule road from Sinlum to Lwejee, 22 miles, was commenced by the Deputy Commissioner of the Bhamo district and afterwards taken over and finished by the Public Works Department. The Moyuchaung and Namsiri bridges on the Bhamo-Sikaw road were lengthened. The first section of the Chinese Frontier road from Bhamo to Kalôngkha was finished to formation level and metalling was in progress; on the second section but little progress was made. Several bridges were renewed on the Wuntho-Pinlèbu road. Necessary improvements to the Kachin track on the Kana route between Mansi and Manswan villages in the Namkhan valley were completed. A cart-road from Gyodaung to Mawmine was completed as a feeder road to the Gyodaung Railway station. Roads to connect the Military Police outposts in the Bhamo district, south of the Tapaing river, were completed. The first section of the branch road to connect the Chinese Frontier road with the Military Police outpost at Nampaung and also the earthwork of the second section were nearly completed.

306. The first section of the Sagu-Panhlwa-Aingma road was improved. An inspection bungalow was provided on the Salin-Minbu road at Shauktaw. On the Ywataung-Toungoo road bridges and culverts were partly renewed. An inspection bungalow was constructed at Dayindal on the Prome-Myedè road. Improvements to the Myingyan-Natogyi road progressed. An approach road from the Myingyan-Meiktila road to the Mahlang Railway station was completed. The earthwork and bridging on the Palè-Yinmabin road were well advanced. A cart-bridge over the Shwechaung near Mingin was completed, and a similar bridge

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progressed over the Yebôkchaung near the same place. The embanked portion of a road from Myindaw to Yatha was completed and also necessary improvements to the Kaduma-Zigôn road. The bridge over the Shwechaung at Pakôkku on the Kan-Pakôkku road was completed. A road from Pakangyi to Pakanngè progressed and an inspection bungalow was built at Pakangyi. The first and second sections of the Saw-Kawtôn road were practically completed. On the Kalemyo-Haka road and branch to Tiddim work progressed on the construction of stables for mules and quarters for muleteers at halting-stages, and similar accommodation progressed at halting-places on the Falam-Indin road.

Other roads.

307. The roads from Ôkkan to Kadônbaw, from Zwedaw to Kayan, and from Tada to Kadapana were completed. Three bridges on the Naaf-Mayu road were rebuilt.

308. The completion of the Mergui-Sandawut-Kywegu road progressed and also bridle-paths connecting Papun with Dagwin, Bilin and Kamamaung. Improvements to the Karenchaung-Nancho road were in hand. A survey for a cart-road from Pathichaung to Thandaung progressed. On the Kēngtūng-Taunggyi mule-road nine inspection bungalows were completed and seven progressed. Bridges on the Fort Stedman-Kēngtūng mule-road were reconstructed.

309. The bridle road from Sinkan to Sikaw was completed. In connection with the north-east frontier defence scheme re-alignment of portions of roads from Waingmaw base to outposts at Sadôn and Loignu were undertaken, and that to Sadôn completed and to Loignu very nearly so. Pioneer roads running from Sadôn fort in the north to the Myitkyina district boundary at the Molechaung in the south were opened out by the Civil officers and will be improved by them next year. A cart-road trace to connect Waingmaw base with N'Sentaru on the frontier at the Maikha was demarcated for half the distance between Vonsong and N'Sentaru; Vonsong is already connected with Waingmaw by a cart-road alignment. The plain section of the Waingmaw-Sima Fort road, from Waingmaw to Kazu, was completed, and the hill section from Kazu to Sima retraced and half demarcated and surveyed. Of railway feeder-roads, the Hopin-Lôntôn road and the Kamaing-Nanyaseik direct road were completed. About 8 miles of new road beyond Nanyaseik towards the jade mines at Mamôn were aligned and surveyed.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

Improvements to towns.

310. The drainage of Ôkpo town in the Henzada district was completed; also four single and nine double latrines for the civil station of Taunggyi. The station protective bunds at Homalin and Kindat were completed.

Markets.

311. Bazaars were completed at Hmawbi, Hlawga, Kyaikpi, Kyawzan and Ôkpo; also fish and meat bazaars at the three latter places, and slaughter-sheds at eight stations. A large open shed was added to the Nyaunglèbin bazaar for the sale of vegetables. Additional bazaars were completed at Daiku and Peinzalôk Railway towns. The extension of the main bazaar at Yedashè and the reconstruction of a bazaar at Kanyutkwin progressed.

Roads and bridges.

312. The construction of roads at Thanatpin was completed, and the construction of additional roads and bridges at Nyaunglèbin practically so.

Water-supply.

313. Materials were collected for improving the water-supply at Thandaung. Petty works to breach in tank bund and a masonry escape at Taunggyi were practically completed. The scheme for water-supply to the station of Maymyo, described in last year's report, progressed, and nearly all the pipes for distributing the water were received and laid. A bund in connection with the Bhamo Lake was constructed to impound water over a low area of country and thus convert a swamp into a lake, which it is hoped will prove a benefit to the residents of Bhamo.

Sewage and drainage.

314. The draining of the Maymyo swamp by deepening and straightening the main stream and constructing branch drains progressed.

Harbours.

315. The wharf at Victoria Point collapsed owing to the use of small and unsuitable stone. Arrangements were made for salvage of the pier head materials.

Miscellaneous.

316. Jungle was cleared, two wells sunk, and necessary roads made for a new Military camping-ground in Maymyo. Camping-grounds in the Myitkyina

district were cleared by the Burma Sappers and Miners along routes from the base of operations to the chief north-east frontier out-posts. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

317. The new light for the light-house at Alguada and a screw-piled beacon on Oyster Reef wee completed. The light at Alguada was exhibited on 1st April 1902. Preliminary local works required in connection with the proposed Beacon Island light-house progressed. **Light-houses.**

318. The bridging of the Sabwetchaung near Minbu on the Minbu-Minhla road was completed. The first section of the Sidôktaya-Salin road was completed, and the second section and inspection bungalows on the whole road progressed. The smaller streams on the Danyaung-Sinbyugyun road were bridged. Improvements of the Kyauksè-Kumè road were completed and progressed on the Myitha-Ingôn road. The Panmunchaung-Pyinthazeik fair-weather road was completed, but additional bridging is required. The Kodaw-Malôn section of the Homalin-Mainkaing road was completed. Land was acquired for six new roads across the irrigable tract below the Shwebo canal and clearing commenced. The Chin Hills section of the road, about 66 miles in length, from Falam to Forest Aigal in the Lushai hills, was about two-thirds completed.

319. Inspection bungalows were completed at Minbyin, Kyaukpyu, Mainywa, Tantabin and Sinlum. **Accommodation for travellers.**

Railways.

320. The length of line open to all descriptions of traffic on the 31st March 1902 was 1,177·7 miles, as compared with 1,124 miles open at the end of the previous year. The increase is due to the opening of the Lashio branch up to Hsipaw, 53 miles beyond Nawnghkio; this extension was opened for traffic on the 1st June 1901, on which day His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor opened the Gôkteik Viaduct. **Length of line.**

321. Beyond Hsipaw work was carried on as far as Lashio, where the branch will terminate; this extension will probably be ready for opening in January 1903. On the Letpadan-Henzada-Bassein branch, the earthwork was completed, most of the minor bridges finished, and good progress made with the major bridges, including those over the Myitmaka and the Daga rivers; the greater part of the permanent way was laid, and the stations finished. This branch will also be ready for opening early in January 1903. **Works in progress.**

322. Surveys and estimates for branches from Henzada to Kyangin, and from Pegu to Martaban were completed; the survey from Thazi to the Southern Shan States was in progress. The construction of no new branches was sanctioned. A site for the bridge over the river Irrawaddy has been fixed at Sagaing.

323. During September and October 1901 the line was breached in several places in the Mandalay district, the most serious being at mile 250·9 caused by a flood in the Sinthè river, which necessitated transhipment from the 4th to the 12th October 1901, and again for two days from the 13th, and for three days from the 22nd of the same month.

324. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system during 1901-02 was Rs. 92,05,122. The total capital expenditure since the commencement has been Rs. 12,28,15,579, out of which the outlay by Government from the commencement to end of August 1896 is Rs. 7,69,12,324. **Capital transactions.**

325. The gross earnings of the year compared with those of 1900-01 were: **Revenue transactions.**

	Rs.
During 1901-02	1,21,73,931
During 1900-01	1,14,61,798
Or a net increase of ...	7,12,133

The working expenses compare as under:—

	Rs.
During 1901-02	73,84,035
During 1900-01	67,27,161
Or a net increase of ...	6,56,874

The net earnings were as under:—

	Rs.
During 1901-02	47,89,896
During 1900-01	47,34,637
Or a net increase of ...	55,259

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Traffic and Working.

326. There was an increase of 51·8½ miles in the mean mileage worked during 1901-02, due to the opening from 1st June 1901 of the Nawnghkio to Hsipaw section of the Lashio branch. The train-mileage increased from 3,496,766 to 3,621,043; the average earnings per mile per week from Rs. 197·38 to Rs. 200·34, the average earnings per train mile from Rs. 3·28 to Rs. 3·36, and the percentage of expenses to earnings from Rs. 58·69 to Rs. 60·65; the capital outlay on open-line to end of the year rose from Rs. 10,05,91,050 to Rs. 11,11,50,015, and the percentage of net receipts to capital outlay on open-line fell from Rs. 4·65 to Rs. 4·36.

Tramways.

327. The Rangoon Tramway was constructed by a private capitalist under an agreement entered into with the Municipality on the 22nd June 1882. The agreement, which will expire on the 22nd June 1903, was ratified by the Legislature by Act XXII of 1883 "the Rangoon Tramways Act."

Some years later the Proprietor formed a Company which took over the concession.

The lines consist of—

(1) a double track of about 8,573 feet from the Strand along China street and Pagoda road to the Shwe Dagôn Pagoda;

(2) a single track from China street along Dalhousie street, west, to Williams street, of about 4,295 feet;

(3) a single track from China street along Dalhousie street, east, Soolay Pagoda road and Montgomery street to Pazundaung, of about 8,989 feet;

(4) a single track from Soolay Pagoda along Dalhousie street, through Judah Ezekiel street to the Strand, of about 4,990 feet.

All the lines were utilized during the year for a regular service of trams.

The subject of introducing electric tramways is engaging the attention of the Municipal Committee.

328. The construction of a system of electric tramways in Mandalay will shortly be undertaken in hand. The transfer of the concession from the original concessionaries, the Burma Electric Works Syndicate, to the Burma Electric Tramways and Lighting Company, Limited, has been sanctioned by Government.

Irrigation.

General.

329. The Irrigation Circle comprises three executive divisions, one temporary Survey division, and an Independent subdivision.

The following changes were made in the year:—

(1) In the Mandalay Canal division three subdivisions were reduced to two.

(2) Two complete subdivisions were formed in the Shwebo Canal division.

(3) A Famine Works Surveys division was formed under an Executive officer to prepare Famine test work projects and estimates, which will furnish employment to the people in the first stages of a famine in what is known as the dry zone.

IMPERIAL—PRODUCTIVE WORKS.

Mandalay canal—General.

330. The main canal channel and masonry works included in the Mandalay Canal project were completed and the canal was formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 7th January 1902. The construction of the distributary system is in progress.

Head-works.

The winches and ironwork of lifting gear and needle girders were erected complete. Barracks for regulating establishment were half completed and the erection of quarters adjoining for an Upper Subordinate was begun.

Thapangaing aqueduct.

The Thapangaing aqueduct was fully completed. The wooden falling shutters forming the sides of the canal aqueduct were erected with all ironwork complete. Barracks for the regulating establishment with a store-shed for tools were under construction.

VI.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The syphon, 4 feet span by 5 feet high, at 35 miles 6½ furlongs, was built at a cost of Rs. 7,168. A drainage channel along the left bank of the canal to the syphon at 12 miles 4 furlongs, and an outfall channel below the syphon, were dug. Similar drainage channels along the left bank were dug to the syphons at 35 miles 6½ furlongs and at 38 miles 6 furlongs.

Drainage syphons.

Twelve wooden bridges under erection in the previous year were completed.

Bridges.

A masonry fall and regulator with 13 feet fall was built at the end of the canal just below the head regulator of the Tamôkso distributary. The width of rectangular opening is 8 feet closed with needles. The cost of this escape was Rs. 16,366. An escape channel below was excavated at a cost of Rs. 14,136 to convey escape water from the canal down the river Myitngè. To save cost, the channel was not dug to the full depth; it will gradually scour, and, as the necessity arises, additional masonry falls will be built to reduce the gradient of the escape channel.

Tail escape.

Estimates for six distributaries were sanctioned and work was undertaken on them. Estimates for three more distributaries were ready and the preparation of estimates for the remaining six were well advanced. The Kyaukmi distributary was completed by the end of the year; the watercourse heads have, however, to be built. The Tadaingshe distributary three-fourths completed. The Tamôkso distributary was about two-thirds ready. The Patheingyi distributary, the largest of the series, was about one-fourth completed.

Distributaries.

331. *Shewbo Canals.*—Two subdivisions were formed early in the year. The final alignment of the main line was completed and the alignments of the two branches were proceeded with. Land required for the main canal was taken up and compensation paid. The excavation of the main canal was commenced and materials were collected at several masonry works.

Shwebo canal—General.

Expenditure was incurred mainly on collection of materials. These works will be built in brick and nearly three-fourths of the number of bricks required were burnt and carted to site. About one-half to two-thirds of other material—limestone, ballast, surkhi, &c.—were collected; also about one-fifth the quantity of laterite pitching material. The foundations of the head regulator of the canal were excavated and the masonry of some of the wells which enclose the foundations was done; the undersinking of the wells was commenced.

Head-works.

The following buildings were erected:—

(1) Inspection-house at head.
(2) Quarters and office for the Subdivisional Officer.
(3) Quarters for an Upper Subordinate.
(4) Quarters for two Clerks, one Lower Subordinate, and one Hospital Assistant.
(5) Quarters for the Engine Superintendent.
(6) Quarters for engine-drivers, firemen, and workshop establisnment.
(7) Barrack and guard-room for treasure guard.
(8) Hospital and dispensary.
(9) Workshop and store-sheds.

The whole of the land down to the bifurcation was cleared of jungle and the boundaries of the land were demarcated with stones. Distance marks at 1,000 feet distances were erected, and head blocks were fixed on the centre line opposite the distance marks at true canal bed level.

Main canal.

The following buildings were erected:—

(1) Quarters and office for the Subdivisional Officer, second subdivision
(2) Quarters and office for the Subdivisional Officer, third subdivision.
(3) Two inspection-houses on the main canal.
(4) Quarters for two clerks, two Upper Subordinates, and six Lower Subordinates.
(5) Barrack and guard-room, also store-shed.

Large quantities of building material were collected at sites of drainage syphons Nos. 1B, 1C, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and of regulators 2, 3 and 4. The foundations of syphons 2, 3 and 4 were excavated and laying of concrete commenced. Excavation of the main canal was started, and about half of the whole earthwork was completed.

V.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The alignment of the Môksogyôn branch was completed, levelled and lock-spitted, and partly demarcated with stones. Building materials were collected at sites of head regulator, regulator No. 2, and drainage syphons 1 and 2.

Môksogyôn branch.

Hladaw branch.

The alignment of the Hladaw branch is in progress and demarcation was partly done. Building materials were collected at sites of head regulator and two falls.

Plant.

Two traction engines and six 8-ton wagons were ordered from England. The plant is required for carriage of stone pitching material from quarries to head-works, a distance of 16 miles.

PROVINCIAL.

Irrigation works for which only Revenue accounts are kept.

Shewetachaung canal.

332. The remodelling of this old Burman Shwetachaung canal was completed. The construction of the Hnengôkto distributary was finished and an old Burmese escape in the canal was remodelled at a cost of Rs. 13,016.

Yezo canal.

333. The Yezo canal is a Burmese work, in the Mandalay district, which obtains its supply from the Thapangaing nullah. The following works were built, namely, a weir across the nullah, a head regulator to the canal, a masonry regulator at the 5th mile of the channel with a drainage flood escape above it, a supply channel to the Taungan tank, and an inspection-house at the head. The total cost of these works, all of which were completed, was Rs. 68,426.

Nwadet canal.

334. The head regulator of the Nwadet canal, Kyauksè district, was fitted with eight wooden gates lifted by eight fixed winches with rack and pinion gear. The pitching below seven rapids was extended and repaired. Surveys were undertaken for remodelling eight distributaries. Estimates were sanctioned for remodelling the following distributaries, work on which was partly completed:—

(1) *The Linzin, Thègyi and South Ngapyaung distributaries.*—These three channels, of which the first two had separate heads in the Nwadet canal and the third was supplied from the Zawgyi river above the Ngapyaung weir, were combined with one head in the Nwadet canal. The total length of the new distributary and branches is about 8 miles. During the year three-fourths of the earthwork was done and work was started on the masonry falls and heads.

(2) *The Thayetcho distributary.*—This distributary was very tortuous and the channel constantly silted up. It was straightened throughout its length of about 5½ miles, a new head was provided, and two falls and four wooden bridges were constructed. The remodelling was practically finished within the year.

Zidaw canal.

335. In the Zidaw canal, Kyauksè district, a deep hole was found to have scoured out below the floor of the head and fall of the Sedo escape, due to the excessive declivity of the bed of the escape channel to the river. A paved rapid was therefore constructed in continuation of the escape head and the bed gradient was considerably reduced. Plans and estimates were under preparation for providing this canal with a head regulator and for improving the weir above it to the Zawgyi river. Below this Zidaw weir straightening cuts were dug through nine loops of the river with a view to increasing the surface gradient of the river and thereby reducing the flooding of lands near Kyauksè. The total length of these straightening cuts was about 13½ miles.

Nathlwe canal.

336. The remodelling from the head in the Panlaung river to the end of the Nathlwè canal, Kyauksè district, where the last two distributaries start, a length of about 10 miles, was carried out and the major portion of the work completed. The remodelling consisted in straightening the course of the canal which was extremely tortuous, improving the bed gradient and proportioning the capacities of the channel to the discharges required, constructing three masonry falls, erecting eighty cart bridges and 1 foot bridge, providing four small escapes in the right bank for drainage water, and building 15 heads for major distributary channels. The canal head regulator was fitted with gates and fixed winches to lift them.

About three-fourths of the channel earth-work was completed and materials were collected for the masonry works which were in progress. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

337. The remodelling of the Sama canal, Kyauksè district, which was still in progress last year, was completed early in this year. The proposed escape at R. D. 5,830 was not built, and it was found, after a year's experience of the working of the remodelled canal, that the work is not necessary as silt did not deposit below the canal head. It was found, however, that an escape was required at R. D. 78,000 to carry off excess water and prevent damage to the canal channel at the lower end. This escape is now being made, and consists of a head sluice with half a mile of escape channel delivering into a drainage which joins the Samôn river. **Sama canal.**

The remodelling of three distributaries of this canal—the Singaing, Tagogyi and Pyaw—was carried out. One head regulator above a fall in the canal was built to supply the three channels which were connected together so as to form one continuous distributary with branches. The channels were straightened and improved in capacity and masonry heads and falls were built. The total length of the distributary and branches was about 8 miles.

338. An embankment 1,900 feet long was made along the left bank of the Kinda canal, Kyauksè district, in continuation of the weir flank bund to exclude river floods. Surveys were started and cross sections taken for the preparation of a project for remodelling the Pyaungbya branch of this canal. **Kinda canal.**

339. At the Meiktila lake the falls, Nos. 5, 6 and 7 in the escape channel, which were in progress, were completed before the setting in of the rains except No. 6 fall, which was not fully finished till the cold weather. As the bed of the escape channel below fall No. 9 (which was built as a rapid) was found to have scoured out considerably so as to endanger that work, another fall, No. 10, with vertical drop of 10 feet was built some distance below fall No. 9, the rapid of which will be extended. Advantage was taken of the building of fall No. 10 to remodel the upper reaches of the Kyaukpin and Ôkpo distributaries by building new heads above this fall. **Meiktila lake.**

340. Progress was made on the new escape channel of the Nyaungyam-Minhla tank, Meiktila district. The earthwork of the channel was practically complete and the subsidiary weir below the main weir was built, and the foundations of the main weir put in. Two additional weirs in the escape channel were being built and will shortly be ready. **Nyaungyam-Minhla tank.**

In the rains of 1901 this tank was surcharged with drainage and discharged freely over its three existing escape weirs continuously for six weeks. Serious damage was done to weir No. 1, the channel below which was deeply scoured and the floor and talus of pitching undermined. It was found necessary to build a subsidiary weir with 10 feet fall a short distance below the escape weir and to excavate a new straight channel. Similar damage was caused below escape weir No. 3, which already had a subsidiary fall. A second subsidiary weir was arranged for with a straightening of the escape channel below. Both these works were in progress.

341. The watercourses from the two distributaries of the Kana tank, Myingyan district, were dug and handed over to the cultivators. **Kana tank.**

342. The new weir and regulator of the Gônbin sè, Yamèthin district, which were started in the previous year, were completed before the rains and worked successfully. **Gônbin sè.**

343. The escape weir and channel of the Yamèthin tank were completed. A new distributary with sluice was constructed. **Yèmethin tank.**

344. The following progress was made during the year on the Man canal, Minbu district. The works which were in hand at the end of last year, *i.e.*, building of the canal regulator and of falls Nos. 2, 3 and 5 and regulator on the main canal, were completed before the rains. **Man canal.**

After the rains the following works were taken in hand, namely, regulator No. 3 on the main canal, as also the head regulators on the Legaing and Pandaw distributaries, and completed; earthwork in the 1st mile of the Legaing and Pandaw distributaries was completed; 6 miles of earthwork of the Sagu branch were completed, as were also regulators Nos. 2 and 3, while regulators Nos. 4, 5, and 6 were in progress. It was found necessary to repair the floors of some falls built in the previous year, as holes had formed in the brickwork next to the drop wall. The bricks were cut out and replaced with stone laid in cement.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Myaungmadaw canal.

345. An old Burman escape, constructed chiefly of stakes and brushwood with some stone filling, carried the flood waters of the Paung *chaung* across the Myaungmadaw canal, Minbu district. This Burman work had each year given trouble in maintenance and was only saved from destruction, with the resulting total loss of irrigated crops, by employment of communal labour and a large annual expenditure. A permanent escape was provided consisting of a weir 250 feet long with scouring sluices of five bays of 6 feet, with a regulator, six openings of 6 feet, across the canal, provided with lifting gates. The foundations and floors were put in by the end of the year. The whole work, which was estimated to cost Rs. 75,000, will probably be completed in June.

Paungzin lake.

346. A second outlet for the regulation of the supply of the Paungzin lake, Minbu district, from the Irrawaddy river was provided at an approximate cost of Rs. 10,000.

Salin canal, Minbu district.

347. A large yearly expenditure is incurred owing to the unstable nature, when in flood, of the Salin river, which constantly changes its course and attacks one bank or the other in turn, endangering the safety of the canals on the two banks. Training works in the river and diversions and retirements of the channels were carried out for the Myaungmadaw, Segan, Nawtamai, Thayetchin and Thadunwa canals.

Pegu and Sittang canals.

348. The bed and side slopes of the Myitkyo lock chamber, which were of earth and which were partly pitched with laterite blocks during last year, had to be repitched as the original pitching had sunk in places owing to springs. Some more pitching remained to be done to bring it to high flood level of the Sittang.

Masonry regulators across the Zwèbat and Sinjidine creeks to regulate the supply of water for the canal from the Moyingyi basin were completed during the year.

The Pegu branch canal for a little over 3 miles from Pegu, with the exception of the first furlong at Pegu, was deepened during the working season of the year, the canal being bunded and emptied for the purpose. The work was brought to a sudden and unexpected stop by a violent storm; the little that was left at the Pegu end will be deepened next working season and the rest beyond the third mile will be deepened with the dredger.

The raising of the crest of the Pegu river embankment to prevent the flood water from the river entering the canal by the branch canal at Pegu was completed during the year. The metalling of the bund, which was sanctioned during the year, was completed for the first 3 miles; delone for the remaining portion was collected and will be consolidated.

Materials for the construction of a lock at Minywa were collected and bricks manufactured; 3,800 casks of cement were indented for from England and work will be started after the rains.

The mat walls of the fuel-shed at Myitkyo were replaced with corrugated iron sheets. The marginal bund, 8th to 10th miles, of the canal, running through low and thickly populated country, having been completely destroyed, was reconstructed. As boatmen found great difficulty in towing their boats, six culverts were also provided.

The furniture of all the inspection bungalows on the canal was brought up to the sanctioned scale.

349. The twin screw steam-launch *Tawa,* which was being constructed for use on the canal at the Government Dockyard, Kidderpore, was completed during the year; but on its way out to Burma it capsized and sank in deep water in the Bay of Bengal, off the coast near Akyab. A party of the Sub-Marine Mining Company, Rangoon, under the direction of the Principal Port Officer, proceeded to the spot to raise the vessel, but were unable to find any trace of it. A new launch is now being constructed by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company in Rangoon.

Sittang-Kyaikto canal.

350. A tow-path, with a large number of foot-bridges, was made throughout along the southern bank of the Sittang-Kyaikto canal, Thatôn district, for the convenience of boatmen.

Kyaikto-Bilin canal.

351. Expenditure was incurred on ordinary maintenance only on the Kyaikto-Bilin canal, Thatôn district.

Conservancy of the Yunzalin river.

352. Expenditure was incurred on ordinary maintenance only on the conservancy of Yunzalin river, Salween district.

Navigation Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

353. The conservancy work on the Chindwin river was continued over the same length as last year, namely, from the mouth of the Chindwin to Homalin. The Burma Government steamer *Bandit* was employed from the 24th December 1901, on snag-lifting, chiefly below Kindat. The new snag-lifting vessel *Search* arrived at Mônywa on the 26th January 1902 and was sent to work above Kindat, but she was found unsuccessful owing to the weakness of her hull. **Conservancy of the Chindwin river.**

The following snags were removed from the river bed during the season:—

(1) Snags lifted by steamers	525
(2) Snags lifted by haulage from banks	221
(3) Snags blasted	263
(4) Snags cut up on sand banks	2,460
Total ...	3,469

Of the 3,469 snags removed during the year, 2,965 were from between Kindat and Homalin. There were still large quantities of snags in several places in this section. In order to prevent the formation of snags, 1,138 trees were felled on banks in course of erosion. Dangerous rocks were found in the buoyed channels at miles 66 and 84, and about 500 cubic feet were removed by blasting.

Further dam construction was found necessary at Alôn in order to keep the western channel open. The work was successful and the channel was used throughout the low water season with little difficulty.

Throughout the year the river up to Kindat was in very good order and the mail steamers ran regularly up to time. A large amount of work has been done on this portion during the last three or four years.

354. Snags were cleared in the boat channels of the Myittha river between Kalewa and Indin, and navigation was kept open during the low water season. **Conservancy of the Myittha river.**

Embankment Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept.

355. The survey of the Bawlè Island, which was commenced last year, was completed, and a project for constructing 9·4 miles of the proposed embankment was sanctioned for Rs. 96,697, but construction is in abeyance pending consideration of the project for the rest of the embankment required for the island. **Hanthawaddy district.**

356. An additional sluice in the main bund at Zálun, Irrawaddy embankment, Henzada section, being considered necessary, an estimate for Rs. 4,124 was sanctioned and work progressed. Work also progressed in extending the Myanaung embankment by 6,863 feet beyond 0 mile; when this is completed the flank of the embankment will rest on the spurs of the Arakan Yomas. **Henzada district.**

Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.

357. Work was in progress in raising certain portions of the south Ma-ubin embankment to a freeboard of 1½ feet, for which an estimate, amounting to Rs. 9,524 was sanctioned. **Thôngwa district.**

358. The Môyingyi, basin, a large tract of low-lying country into which flows the drainage of the land to the east and west of the railway line, is always under water, and the construction of an embankment from Zwèbat to Môyingyi was sanctioned to restrict the flooded area and to reclaim land which it is expected will come under paddy cultivation and yield a large revenue. Owing to the ground where the embankment has to be made being under water for the greater part of the year, work can only be done during the hot weather. The work was completed with the exception of 2 furlongs, which also would have been completed had work not been stopped by a violent storm. Five diversions at miles 9, 10, 18, 21 and 26 of the Sittang embankment, which were considered necessary owing to the encroachments of the river Sittang, were completed. **Pegu district.**

Works for which neither Capital nor Revenue Accounts are kept.

359. Trial survey of the Yandoon Island, with a view to the preparation of a project for embanking the island, was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,904. **Thôngwa district.**

360. A survey establishment under the direction of an Executive Officer was occupied in carrying out surveys and preparing estimates for minor tank and hill torrent works, which will serve for test works in a season of scarcity in the districts of Meiktila, Yamèthin and Myingyan, and will also, when completed, support a certain area of cultivation in years of fair rainfall. Surveys are still in progress, but the projects will not be submitted till some six or eight months later. **Famine Test-works Surveys.**

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report of Burma for 1901-02.
Excise Administration Report of Burma for 1901-02.
Report on Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma for 1901.
Report on Administration of Stamp Revenue in Burma for 1899-00 to 1901-02.
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Report on Working of the Income-tax Act, II of 1886, in Burma for 1899-00 to 1901-02.
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Ninth Issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India (Tables I.—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III.—Salt, IV.—Opium, V.—Excise, VII.—Stamps, VIII.—Income-tax, XIV.—Paper Currency).

(*a*) Gross Revenue.

361. The following statement shows the collection and, in some cases, the demand, remissions, and net demand under each principal head of Revenue during the past two years :—

Item of revenue.	1900-01.				1901-02.				Plus or minus of net demand.	Plus or minus of collections.
	Demand.	Remissions.	Net demand.	Collections.	Demand.	Remission	Net demand.	Collections.		
1	2	3 *	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land revenue ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(*a*) Ordinary revenue ...	1,80,42,896	65,988	1,79,76,908	1,75,42,333*	1,96,71,653	94,754	1,95,76,899	1,95,24,671	+15,99,991	+19,82,338
(*b*) Water-rate ...	195,808	4,671	1,91,227	1,64,728*	44,564	77	44,487	44,457	−1,46,740	−1,20,271
(*c*) Capitation-tax ...	45,03,083	36,188	44,67,795	44,66,474*	46,78,961	44,273	46,34,688	46,34,688	+1,66,893	+1,68,214
(*d*) *Thathameda* ...	58,40,756	21,132	58,19,624	58,06,794*	51,78,552	73,800	51,04,752	51,02,872	−7,14,872	−7,03,922
(*e*) Fisheries ...	23,25,017	26,549	22,98,468	22,65,507*	25,74,036	44,074	25,29,962	25,28,269	+2,31,494	+2,62,762
(*f*) Land-rate in lieu of capitation.	81,718	293	81,425	81,425	76,310	407	75,903	75,903	−5,522	−5,522
(*g*) Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	11,73,573*	...	...	...	17,84,519	...	+6,10,946
Total ...	...	...	...	3,15,00,834	...	...	...	3,36,95,379	...	+21,94,545
1. Customs ...	...	...	...	1,00,57,465	...	...	...	1,06,63,718	...	+6,06,253
2. Opium ...	...	...	...	26,84,915	...	...	...	31,28,053	...	+4,43,138
3. Salt excise ...	1,94,164	...	1,94,164	1,95,363	2,41,290	10	2,41,280	2,41,381	+47,116	+46,018
4. Excise ...	...	...	...	27,97,623	...	...	...	30,23,089	...	+2,25,466
5. Stamps ...	...	...	...	20,82,047*	...	...	...	22,61,826	...	+1,79,779
6. Assessed taxes ...	...	...	...	11,19,800	...	...	..	12,13,501	...	+93,701
7. Forests ...	...	...	...	80,61,576	...	...	...	58,73,107	...	−21,88,469
8. Registration ...	...	...	...	1,01,116	...	...	...	1,07,460	...	+6,344
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	5,86,00,739	...	...	...	6,02,07,514	...	+16,06,775

* Revised figures.

These figures show an increase of some 16 lakhs in gross revenues during the year and this in spite of a decline of nearly 22 lakhs in forest revenue. The large increase under land revenue is in part fictitious as the figures shown under the year 1901-02 cover a period of 15 months, whereas the figures for 1900-01 deal with the financial year only. In accordance with the terms of the expiring Provincial Contract the revenue under "Opium" other than "Opium Excise" is wholly Imperial, under "Customs" is mainly Imperial, and under the other main heads given above is shared in fixed proportions between Provincial and Imperial. In the following paragraphs the revenue under each head is first dealt with as a whole, and the shares credited to Imperial and Provincial Funds respectively are then discussed under the head of "Finance."

Land Revenue.

Ordinary Revenue.

362. The report on Land Revenue Administration, on which the figures in this report are based, has been modified so as to deal with the agricultural year ending the 30th June and not as hitherto, the financial year ending 31st March. In

order to bring about this change the report for 1901-02 deals with a period of 15 months. This does not, however, very materially increase the figures or altogether prevent comparisons with the preceding financial year as the period between 1st April and 30th June is one in which assessments and collections of land revenue of all kinds are small.

363. The area assessed to land revenue in Lower Burma has increased from 7,374,912 acres to 7,647,923 acres in consequence chiefly of extensions of cultivation. The fallow area amounted to 383,431 acres, of which 251,276 acres paid full revenue rates, 29,447 acres paid intermediate rates, and 102,708 acres paid the reduced rate of 2 annas per acre. A large proportion of the fallow area is within Akyab district, where lands are left uncultivated for grazing purposes. The total area under assessment in Upper Burma cannot be accurately ascertained, as the revenue continues to be assessed at a share of the produce in tracts which have not yet been cadastrally surveyed. The total land revenue demand for the whole of Burma amounted during the period under review to Rs. 1,96,95,318 as compared with Rs. 1,80,42,896 in the preceding financial year. The increase in Lower Burma amounted to some 20 lakhs and was due both to extensions of cultivation and to the increase of the revenue rates on revision settlement in the Henzada, Toungoo, Pegu and Hanthawaddy districts. In both Henzada and Hanthawaddy districts the increase exceeded $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, it was more than 2 lakhs in Pegu and over $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in Toungoo. No large remissions were needed on account of destruction of crops and the net revenue had almost all been collected before the 30th June 1902.

364. In Upper Burma the cultivated area and revenue assessed were generally less than in the previous year owing to scanty rainfall, and partial failure of many irrigation works. The revenue on island crops is assessed and collected from April to June, and the figures for two seasons are therefore included in the period now dealt with and tend to limit the reductions which would otherwise have been shown. In Meiktila district the demand fell, in consequence of the decrease in cultivation, from Rs. 5,63,351 to Rs. 3,83,714; in Kyauksè district there was a decrease of more than half a lakh, and in Mandalay and Minbu districts, taking the financial year in each case, decreases of over Rs. 70,000 and Rs. 34,000 respectively. Rates of assessment based on a summary settlement were introduced conjointly with a reduction in *thathameda* into the Myingyan district and the land revenue demand increased from Rs. 45,249 to Rs. 4,81,704. Revenue was assessed on matured crops only in Upper Burma, and as the term was liberally interpreted in the districts of the dry zone, extensive remissions were not needed. The largest remissions were Rs. 41,765 in the Kyauksè district and Rs. 13,068 in Mandalay, the insufficient rainfall and failure of the irrigation supply being the ground for remission in both districts. The total land revenue collected in the province during the whole period amounted to Rs. 1,95,48,336 on account of the current demand and Rs. 3,76,534 on account of the previous year's arrears. A sum of Rs. 52,228 only was outstanding at the end of June 1902.

Water rate.

365. A small water rate, amounting in all to Rs. 44,564, was assessed in Upper Burma on irrigated lands which were not being assessed to land revenue. In Shwebo district the assessment was Rs. 9,600 only against Rs. 1,34,263 in the previous year. The large decrease arose from the deficient rainfall, the irrigation works being dependent for their supply on local rain. For irrigated areas on which land revenue is assessed, the water rate payable is included with the land revenue, and adjusted afterwards in accounts, if necessary, no separate assessment being made.

Capitation-tax.

366. The number of persons assessed to capitation-tax in Lower Burma increased with the growth in population from 1,079,846 to 1,128,618 persons and the assessment rose in consequence from Rs. 45,03,983 to Rs. 46,78,961. No changes in rates were made during the year. Omitting Rs. 44,273 remitted, the revenue was all paid in before the close of the agricultural year. The number of persons exempted from the tax increased from 113,265 to 116,112, owing partly to more careful record of persons over 60 years of age who are no longer liable to payment.

Thathameda.

367. There is an increase from 667,042 to 691,675 in the number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma, and a decrease from Rs. 58,40,756

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to Rs. 51,78,552 in the amount of revenue assessed. The decrease in revenue was partly due to reductions in the rate of assessment per household which were conceded on account of the unfavourable season in the Mandalay, Shwebo, Yamèthin, Pakôkku and Magwe districts. In the Myingyan district and the Upper Burma portion of Thayetmyo district the rates were reduced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5 and Rs. 3 per household respectively in consequence of the introduction of direct land revenue assessment, and the *thathameda* demand decreased by Rs. 4,33,585 in Myingyan and Rs. 56,883 in Thayetmyo. Remissions increased in all from Rs. 21,132 in 1900-01 to Rs. 73,800 in the year under report. They were largest in Pakôkku (Rs. 32,040) and the Lower Chindwin districts (Rs. 11,667), in which sufficient reduction in rates was found not to have been allowed in the first instance. The revenue was almost all collected before the 30th June.

Fishery revenue.

368. The revenue demand from net licenses increased from Rs. 2,38,455 to Rs. 2,78,164, and on account of leased fisheries from Rs. 20,86,562 to Rs. 22,74,868, an increase of some 2¼ lakhs in all. The larger sum realized from net licenses is accounted for in part by the issue of licenses through the agency of village headmen, when the licenses are thus more readily obtainable. The more important of the leased fisheries are in the delta districts, and the subdivision of large fisheries with other improvements in methods of control have led, together with brisk trade generally, to an advance in the prices paid at the auctions. In three districts only in Upper Burma do the leased fisheries realize more than Rs. 30,000 annually, and prices have fallen somewhat in consequence of unfavourable conditions during recent years.

369. Remissions amounted to Rs. 44,074 and Rs. 25,07,265 were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,968 outstanding at the close of the year, of which part was owing from 1900-01.

Land rate and other miscellaneous land revenue.

370. A decrease from Rs. 81,718 to Rs. 76,310 in the land rate assessed in lieu of capitation-tax in certain towns of Lower Burma arose from a reduction in the area liable to assessment and in the rates imposed in Henzada town.

There was an increase from Rs. 11,73,573 to Rs. 17,84,524 in the collections of other miscellaneous land revenue, which is partly due to the larger period covered. The duty on the oil produced from the Yenangyaung and Yenangyat oil fields amounted to some Rs. 7,80,000 for the 15 months, as compared with 4½ lakhs in the previous year, and the mineral receipts from the Ruby Mines district show an increase of 1¼ lakhs of rupees.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the land.

Customs.

371. The gross customs revenue amounted to Rs. 1,08,53,453 and the net revenue to Rs. 1,06,63,718 as compared with gross and net revenues of Rs. 1,02,08,776 and Rs. 1,00,57,465, respectively in 1900-01. In consequence of larger shipments of rice and rice-flour to Europe the net export duty levied thereon increased from Rs. 54,56,773 to Rs. 61,91,738. The net duty on imports fell from Rs. 46,00,692 to Rs. 44,71,980. The quantity of oils imported was more than double that of the previous year, but there was a general reduction in imports of piece-goods owing to large stocks in hand at the beginning of the year. There was an increase in the import duty on salt and salted fish, which is commented upon in the next paragraph.

Salt.

372. No change was introduced during the year in the methods of taxation of locally manufactured salt, the revenue being determined, as hitherto, in accordance with the number and size of the cauldrons and pots used in the manufacture, and irrespective of the quantity of salt produced. The introduction of direct taxation on outturn, which it had been intended to enforce in Hanthawaddy and Bassein districts, was postponed until the beginning of the year 1902. In Upper Burma the assessment on each type of cauldron and pot remained unchanged. In Lower Burma the assessment was increased 25 per cent. throughout in order to bring the tax on estimated output more nearly into agreement with the customs duty on imported salt.

The total revenue derived from both locally produced and imported salt amounted to Rs. 14,23,866 against Rs. 12,79,293 in 1900, and the duty on imported salted fish increased from Rs. 87,871 to Rs. 1,27,015.

373. The number of cauldrons and pots licensed for local manufacture fell from 4,424 to 4,074. The decrease was chiefly in the Upper Burma districts in which local salt, owing to the heavy cost of production, is being gradually driven out of the markets by foreign salt. In consequence of the heavier rates of taxation in the Lower Province the total revenue demand on account of local salt rose from Rs. 1,94,164 to Rs. 2,41,290 and collections, including previous year's arrears, from Rs. 1,95,363 to Rs. 2,41,381. In so far as the actual output can be ascertained, the incidence of the tax per maund of salt produced amounted in Lower Burma to something below 7 annas as compared with an average below 6 annas in 1900, the increase of 25 per cent. in the tax having been followed by a larger output from each cauldron in certain districts. Recent detailed investigations have shown that salt of local manufacture contains more moisture than imported salt, and that a 7-anna duty on the former corresponds roughly with an 8-anna duty on imported salt, this being one-half the present import duty.

374. The revenue obtained from the duty on foreign salt amounted to Rs. 11,82,485 during the year and to Rs. 10,83,930 in the previous year. The larger imports have been due to the small supply in hand at the beginning of the year, to a slight improvement in prices realized, and to low rates of freight for shipments from Europe secured during the year. Imports from the United Kingdom increased from 153,723 maunds to 474,711 maunds, and from Germany from 506,884 to 701,939 maunds. There was an increase from 1,366 maunds to 248,937 maunds in Aden salt (of which, however, nearly one-half remained in bond at the close of the year) and from 35,320 maunds to 111,529 maunds in salt duty free from Madras. The latter salt appears to be establishing a secure position in the Burma market.

375. An increase from 238,966 maunds to 342,214 maunds in imports of salted fish is attributed to a short supply of home-cured fish in Rangoon. The growth in trade was confined to the Straits Settlements, the quantity imported from India being less than the previous year.

376. No marked change in consumption or in channels of supply is indicated by the year's figures for coasting trade. A few unimportant cases of illicit manufacture were detected, but no serious evasions of the law were discovered during the year.

Excise.

377. The gross excise revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 61,51,142 and the charges to Rs. 5,39,697, giving a net revenue of Rs. 56,11,445. For the previous year the corresponding figures were—gross revenue Rs. 53,93,334, charges Rs. 4,56,414, and net revenue Rs. 49,36,920. The chief increases in receipts were Rs. 3,03,859 in license fees for sale of opium, Rs. 2,76,688 in license fees for country-fermented liquors, and Rs. 1,70,878 in the duty on opium. The only decrease of any importance was one of Rs. 56,187 in the duty on Indian spirits manufactured after European methods. The increase in charges was mainly due to the larger supplies of opium obtained from Bengal and to more liberal payments of rewards.

Liquor.

378. The total revenue from license fees and duties on liquors of all kinds amounted to Rs. 30,23,089 against Rs. 27,49,483 in the preceding year. Licenses for the sale of imported liquors realized Rs. 9,28,197, or Rs. 48,719 more than in 1900-01. The increase was largely due to more spirited competition at the auction sales in Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Henzada, Mandalay and other districts. As noted above, there was a large falling off in the duty on spirits of European kinds made in Indian and Burman distilleries, in consequence, it would seem, of the concerted action of retail vendors.

379. The number of licenses for the sale of country-fermented liquors other than tari was increased from 282 to 356, and the license fees rose from Rs. 9,29,771 to Rs. 11,66,559. The fees for the sales of tari amounted to Rs. 4,71,471 as compared with Rs. 4,31,571 in the previous year, notwithstanding a decrease from 1,454 to 1,237 in the number of shops. The variations in the duty on beer and in the license fees for the sale of spirits of all kinds were unimportant. Country liquors show generally a continued tendency to replace the more powerful distilled spirits. The prohibition of the employment of females in hotel bars,

imposed in 1900-01, has been held to be outside the provisions of the Excise Act and has been withdrawn in consequence.

Opium.

380. No changes were introduced in the methods of opium administration during the year under review. From the 1st April 1902, the disposal of retail licenses by auction has been abandoned in Lower Burma in favour of a system of appointment of vendors by selection, and a similar change in the Upper Province is under contemplation. The re-opening of the lists of registered Burman consumers in Lower Burma, so as to permit of the registration of men who had failed to record their names when the lists were framed in 1893 and who of late years have obtained their supplies by illicit means, has resulted in an increased demand from the licensed shops. The issues to vendors during the year amounted to 38,882 seers of excise and confiscated opium and 976 seers of Burman and foreign opium, against 32,783 seers and 1,238 seers respectively in the previous year, and the duty on opium supplied has risen consequently from Rs. 10,69,985 in 1900-01 to Rs. 12,40,863 in 1901-02. In Akyab district and in Rangoon town the increase in duty exceeded half a lakh of rupees. Partly on account of the larger sales anticipated and also because of a general impression that the auction purchasers in 1900-01 would most probably be selected as vendors when the changed methods were introduced, the auction fees for retail licenses increased from Rs. 15,35,353 to Rs. 18,39,212. The largest increases were in Rangoon town (Rs. 71,005), Mandalay (Rs. 54,905), Henzada (Rs. 52,991), Bassein (Rs. (40,106), Tharrawaddy (Rs. 37,000), Myaungmya (Rs. 28,300) and Thôngwa Rs. 27,000). In seven districts only was there any decrease in auction fees, and in certain of these districts the previous year's figures had been abnormally high in consequence of keen competition. One hundred and ninety-one licenses were issued during the year to pharmacists, tattooers and medical practitioners, and 17 other special licenses were granted. A few licenses were again granted to possess ganja for the medicinal treatment of elephants.

Working of the Excise and Opium Laws.

381. There has been a slight increase over the preceding year's figures in the number of offences brought to light against the Excise and Opium laws. The number of persons arrested was 5,299, of whom 4,303 were convicted and 1,138 imprisoned, as compared with 4,830 persons arrested, 4,001 convicted and 1,040 imprisoned in 1900-01. The fines imposed increased from Rs. 1,25,332 to Rs. 1,44,678 and the rewards granted from Rs. 1,10,849 to Rs. 1,43,505. The number of illicit stills suppressed rose from 247 to 400, and the quantity of liquor confiscated from 15,165 gallons to 20,135 gallons. The quantity of illicit opium seized amounted to 297,724 tolas against 263,258 tolas in the previous years, whilst seizures of illicit ganja decreased slightly from 26,506 tolas to 25,030 tolas. Several large seizures of foreign opium which were being smuggled by land into Burma were made in the Mandalay division during the year. In two of these cases the accused were of European birth or extraction. The enforcement of the law rested generally with the Police, but village headmen gave greater assistance on the whole than in earlier years. The work of the Special Excise establishments was not creditable and the staff has since been reorganized and materially strengthened in Lower Burma. The Postmasters of Rangoon and Akyab have been empowered to search for opium smuggled through the post, and this form of illicit traffic has been materially checked.

Stamp revenue.

382. The gross revenue from stamps has increased from Rs. 20,82,047 to Rs. 22,61,826 and the net revenue from Rs. 20,18,099 to Rs. 21,88,314 when compared with the previous year's figures. Receipts from the sale of judicial stamps amounted to Rs. 14,23,910 against Rs. 12,51,941 in 1900-01, and non-judicial stamps realized Rs. 8,20,906 and Rs. 8,05,042 in the two years. Under the latter head there was a decrease of some Rs. 4,000 in sales of impressed labels and of Rs. 3,000 odd in foreign bill stamps. Sales of impressed stamps rose from Rs. 4,19,285 to Rs 4,39,586, and of one-anna receipt stamps from Rs. 1,34,025 to Rs. 1,34,084. Several instances occurred during the year in which one-anna stamps were discovered to have been wrongly used on mortgage deeds drawn up in the form of promissory notes. The total charges amounted to Rs. 73,512, which is Rs. 9,564 more than in the previous year. The cost of discount paid to vendors increased with the larger sales, and larger refunds were made during the year on

court-fee stamps which had been spoiled or rendered unfit for use. The number of documents impounded increased from 1,252 to 1,423, whilst duties and penalties realized fell from Rs. 25,064 to Rs. 16,981. The decrease was partly due to the inclusion of two abnormally large items in the figures for the previous year. More careful check of completed cases sent in to district record-rooms has tended to increase the number of deeds impounded. During the year 159 prosecutions were instituted under the Stamp Act and fines amounting to Rs. 2,409 were imposed. Both the number of cases and the amount of the fines are less than in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 264 was paid as rewards to informers. In 139 cases notices of application for probate or letters of administration were sent by Civil Courts to the Collector under section 19H of the Court-fees Act; further enquiries were made in 36 cases and deficient court-fees to the value of Rs. 29 were required.

Assessed taxes. (*Income-tax.*)

383. The Income-tax Act was extended during the year to 20 large villages in Thôngwa district. Elsewhere no changes were made in the areas within which the tax is assessed.

The net collections amounted to Rs. 12,07,701 as compared with Rs. 11,13,537 in 1900-01. With the reorganization of the Burma Commission and an increase in the pay of thugyis, received in the form of commission on land revenue collections, the tax on Government servants increased from Rs. 2,45,804 to Rs. 2,52,005. The tax on incomes paid by local authorities rose from Rs. 33,347 to Rs. 34,372, and on salaries paid by companies and private employers and collected under section 9 of the Act, from Rs. 1,58,554 to Rs. 1,64,071. In Mandalay Town 50 firms collected the tax from their employés against 27 firms in the previous year. Forty-one companies including the Burma Railways Company paid income-tax amounting to Rs. 1,73,707 on their profits, whereas Rs. 1,36,955 only had been paid by 42 companies in 1900-01. The marked improvement is due to the more favourable conditions affecting trade generally in Rangoon during recent years. There was a small increase of Rs. 1,157, due to fresh loans, in the tax (Rs. 8,205) on interest on securities.

384. The tax on other sources of income, which forms the chief item of assessment, increased from Rs. 5,35,569 on 15,327 assessees in 1900-01 to Rs. 5,78,374 on 15,915 assessees during the year under report. The growth in the tax is attributed to improved administration and better trade prospects. The increase would have been still larger but for the damage caused in Lower Burma to the harvest of 1900-01 by the rain in February 1901, which was in some districts so serious that its effects extended beyond the cultivators most immediately concerned and it affected adversely this year's income-tax collections. There was a slight decrease in Mandalay Town in consequence of depression in the weaving and ruby trades, of losses on speculations in tea, and of damage caused by flood and fire in the preceding year. The initial demand under this head amounted to Rs. 6,84,175, which, after disposal of objections and revisions, was reduced by Rs. 1,03,391 before final assessment. Excessive zeal and absence of careful enquiry were shown by certain collectors in the first preparation of the rolls. The assessment of the chetty community through the agency of a chetty assessor was carried out both in Rangoon and other towns with varying success during the year.

385. Penalties increased from Rs. 2,523 to Rs. 2,767 and refunds fell from Rs. 6,263 to Rs. 5,800. With larger commission on collections and certain additions to salaried staff the expenditure of the department has increased from Rs. 31,180 to Rs. 34,099.

Forests.

386. The forest revenue realized during the year was nearly 22 lakhs less than in the year 1900-01. The floating season was very unsatisfactory and seriously delayed the extraction of timber both by Government and private agency. There was a decrease of some $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in the revenue from the Pegu circle and of nearly 2 lakhs in the Tenasserim circle on this account. In the Northern circle the decrease amounted to $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs roughly, and was due to postponement of auction-sale of Government timber in consequence of a dull market and to a falling off in the revenue from rubber and from the sale of cutch licenses. The largest decrease was from Rs. 20,48,542 to Rs. 9,63,652 in the Southern circle, Upper Burma. This arose in part from the bad floating season, but was mainly due to

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the expiry of the timber purchase contract held by the Bombay-Burma Trading Corporation in the Pyinmana forests and the temporary restriction on exploitation pending preparation of working plans. The revenue from minor forest produce was generally up to the level of the preceding year.

Registration.

387. The small increase in the revenue from registration was due to the larger number of documents registered during the year.

(*b*)—Finance.

Gross receipts.

388. The following statement exhibits the gross receipts and expenditure of the financial years 1900-01 and 1901-02, distributed between Imperial, Provincial, Incorporated Local, Excluded Local, and Municipal Funds. The transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Fund are included in these figures although these Funds do not bank with Government.

Fund.	1900–1901.		1901–1902.	
	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial	3,72,12,289	1,02,28,164	3,82,44,021	1,11,67,171
Provincial	3,64,79,852	3,49,63,632	3,65,50,563	3,57,94,478
Incorporated Local	23,93,855	23,88,061	25,50,450	24,24,134
Excluded Local	30,27,119	28,57,261	29,48,539	28,39,745
Municipalities	66,51,796	56,19,165	66,41,966	63,54,404
Total ...	8,57,64,911	5,60,56,283	8,69,35,539	5,85,79,932

(i) *Imperial.*

Receipts.

389. There was a net increase of Rs. 10,31,732 in receipts as compared with the previous year, namely,—

	Rs.
Gross increase	21,22,735
Gross decrease	10,91,003
Net increase ...	10,31,732

The gross increase of Rs. 21,22,735 occurred under the following heads:—

	Rs.
Land Revenue	3,67,167
Opium	46,938
Salt	94,049
Stamps	44,946
Excise	47,303
Customs.	5,30,239
Assessed taxes	46,788
Tributes from Native States	29,564
State Railways (gross earnings)	8,98,509
Petty increases under other heads	17,232
Total ...	21,22,735

The falling off of Rs. 10,91,003 is distributed as follows:—

	Rs.
Forests	10,90,253
Petty decreases under other heads...	750
Total ...	10,91,003
Net increase ...	10,31,732

The variations in the receipts under certain heads of revenue have been commented upon above. The increase under *Tributes* is due to smaller remissions by short recovery of tributes. Under *State Railways* the advance was caused by an increase in the open mileage, by a rise in paddy traffic owing to active demand for export to Indian and other markets, and by the increased general prosperity of the people and development of traffic on the *Railway*.

Expenditure.

390. On the expenditure side there was a net increase of Rs. 9,39,007 which is made up as follows:—

	Rs.
Increases—	
Refunds and drawbacks	20,725
Excise	19,729
Scientific and other minor departments	45,680
State Railways (working expenses)	9,47,232
Petty increases under other heads	23,101
Total ...	10,56,467
Decreases—	
Political	38,730
Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	17,400
Military works	49,079
Petty decreases under other heads	12,251
Total ...	1,17,460
Net increase ...	9,39,007

Increases.

The increase under *Refunds and Drawbacks* is chiefly due to larger refunds of Customs and Land Revenues. Under *Excise* the increase is due chiefly to larger payments of excise and opium rewards. The increase under *Scientific and other Minor Departments* is due to the cost of census operations having been more than in the previous year. Under *State Railways* the increase is due to the extension of the line and the consequent additional mileage run, to larger outlay on coal, to the payment of passage money to covenanted drivers and firemen, to the adjustment of all arrear freight charges in the accounts for 1901-02, and to heavier expenditure on repairs and renewals to coaching and goods vehicles.

Decreases.

The decrease under *Political* is chiefly due to the suspension of work in connection with the Chinese Frontier Delimitation Commission. The decrease under *Miscellaneous Railway Expenditure* is due to heavier outlay on Railway surveys by the Burma Railways Company in the previous year. Under *Military Works* the decrease is due to larger expenditure in the previous year on the buildings for the Burma Gurkha Rifles at Maymyo, and on the water-supply scheme for the Meiktila Cantonment.

(*ii*) *Provincial.*

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Receipts.

391. In the Provincial section the receipts show a net improvement of Rs. 70,711, which is made up as follows :—

	Rs.
Increases—	
Land Revenue	7,84,864
Salt	94,047
Stamps	1,34,839
Excise	47,303
Assessed Taxes	46,788
Law and Justice—Courts of Law	20,653
Law and Justice—Jails	13,758
Miscellaneous	20,895
Contributions	26,900
Petty increases under other heads	32,094
Total	12,22,141
Decreases—	
Forests	10,90,253
Marine	14,003
Minor works and navigation	35,522
Petty decreases under other heads	11,652
Total	11,51,430
Net increase	70,711

Increases.

The increases under *Land Revenue, Salt, Stamps, Excise*, and *Assessed Taxes* are due to the same causes which have affected the receipts in the Imperial section. Under *Courts of Law* the increase is due chiefly to an increase in fines in excise and criminal cases, and that under *Jails* to an increase in the demand for jail-made articles. The increase under *Miscellaneous* is due to larger receipts on account of contributions for pensions and gratuities payable for officers lent to the Burma Railways Company and bazaar rents. The further extension of the system of collecting revenue through village headmen has caused an increase under *Contributions* as District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are required to make contributions to Provincial Revenues towards the remuneration of village headmen in consideration of the extent to which the present system has been introduced.

Decreases.

The falling off under *Forests* was due to the same cause which affected the receipts in the Imperial section. The decrease under *Marine* is mainly due to a falling off in receipts from coast light dues and to larger receipts in the previous year from sale-proceeds of vessels and stores. Under *Minor Works and Navigation* the decrease is due to more refunds of double assessment of water rates recovered from landholders in the Minbu district.

Expenditure.

392. On the expenditure side, there was a net increase of Rs. 8,30,846 as detailed below :—

	Rs.
Increases—	
Land Revenue	2,86,874
Excise	19,730
Post office	47,362
Law and Justice—Courts of Law	1,01,036
Law and Justice—Jails	1,37,766
Police	3,38,068
Marine	65,300
Education	47,888
Scientific and other minor departments	16,242
Miscellaneous	88,453
Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	1,00,849
Minor Works and Navigation	1,76,617
Petty increases under other heads	36,497
Total	14,62,682

Decreases—		Rs.
General administration		18,976
Civil works		6,00,284
Petty decreases under other heads		12,582
	Total ...	6,31,836
	Net increase ...	8,30,846

Increases.

The increase under *Land Revenue* is due to a further extension of the system of revenue collection by village headmen, to an increase in the charges for surveys of waste lands, consequent on more numerous applications for grants to extended operations of supplementary survey, and to an unusually large payment of commission on land revenue collections.

The increase under *Excise* has been explained in the Imperial section. Under *Post Office* the increase is due to the establishment of a new line of postal communication between Akyab and Chittagong and to the readjustment of subsidies to steam-boat companies chargeable to this head and to the head "21, Marine," resulting in an increase under this head and a decrease under the latter. The increase under *Courts of Law* is due to larger expenditure on travelling allowances and diet and travelling expenses of witnesses. Under *Jails* the increase is due to the opening of a new jail at Myaungmya and to larger expenditure on rations and purchase of raw materials for manufacture.

The increase under *Police* is partly due to the Police force having been below the sanctioned strength to a greater extent in the previous year and partly to larger expenditure in the year under report on arms and accoutrements and purchase and carriage of supplies. The increase under *Marine* is chiefly due to larger outlay on construction of launches and purchase of stores for use by steam-launches.

Under *Education* the increase is attributed to larger payments of grants-in-aid to the opening of new schools and to the payment of enhanced contribution to the Educational Syndicate.

The increase under *Scientific and other Minor Departments* is due to the employment of a larger number of Veterinary Assistants. Under *Miscellaneous* the increase is due chiefly to cost and freight, &c., of elephants purchased for kheddah operations in Burma. The increase under *Miscellaneous Railway Expenditure* is due to larger expenditure on work in connection with the Southern Shan States Railway Survey. Under *Minor Works and Navigation* the increase is due to larger expenditure on remodelling canals in the Kyauksè district, and on additional works for the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank and Salin canal project.

Decreases.

The decrease under *General Administration* is due to extra expenditure in the previous year caused by the number of Commissioners who were on privilege leave, or on special duty in that year being larger than in the year under report. Under *Civil Works* the decrease is due to large payments having been made in 1900-01 for land acquired for the Chief Court of Lower Burma and for the Provincial Museum at Rangoon.

(*iii*) *Incorporated Local Funds.*

393. The transactions of the District Cess and District Funds added to those of the Taunggyi Improvement Fund show a net increase of Rs. 1,56,595 in receipts and of Rs. 36,073 in expenditure as compared with the previous year.

District Cess Funds. (Lower Burma.)

No change took place in the number of these funds during the year. There was a net increase of Rs. 1,52,935 in receipts in 1901-02 as compared with the previous year, which is due chiefly to increases under *Provincial Rates, Police, Miscellaneous,* and *Civil Works by Civil Officers,* partly counterbalanced by decreases under *Land Revenue, Marine,* and *Contributions from Provincial to Local.*

The increase under *Provincial Rates* is large and attributable to the growth of revenue under that head.

The expenditure was also greater than in the previous year, the net increase being Rs. 15,878. The increases occurred chiefly under the heads *Land Revenue, Provincial Rates, Marine, Education, Civil Works by Civil Officers,* and *Contributions from Local to Provincial,* while, on the other hand, there is a large decrease under *Civil Works by Public Works Officers.*

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

The increase under *Land Revenue* is due to the calculation of the contributions being made on a sliding scale from all funds, and that under *Provincial Rates* to larger payments on account of commission on collections, consequent on the increase in receipts. Under *Marine* the increase is due chiefly to the construction of a launch for the Ma-ubin district. Under *Education* the increase occurs under grants-in-aid. The outlay under *Civil Works by Civil Officers* and *Civil Works by Public Works Officers* fluctuates according to the funds available and the ability of the officers to carry out the programme of expenditure. The increase under *Contribution from Local to Provincial* is due to further extension of the system of revenue collection by village headmen. The decrease under *Civil Works by Public Works Officers* is due to larger expenditure in the previous year on the construction of roads in the Rangoon, Martaban, and Pegu divisions.

District Funds. (*Upper Burma.*)

394. The number of District Funds was the same as in the previous year. There was a net decrease of Rs. 121 in receipts as compared with the previous year, resulting from increases under *Police* and *Miscellaneous* counterbalanced by a decrease under *Civil Works by Civil Officers*. The increase under *Police* is due to larger receipts from slaughter-house licenses and cattle pound-fees and fines, while the decrease under *Civil Works by Civil Officers* is attributable to a special receipt of Rs. 9,617 from the Ruby Mines Company in the previous year. There was a net increase of Rs. 30,787 in expenditure as compared with the previous year, chiefly under *Civil Works by Civil Officers*.

Taunggyi Improvement Fund.

395. There was a net increase of Rs. 3,781 in receipts and a decrease of Rs. 10,592 in expenditure as compared with the previous year. Larger expenditure was incurred in the previous year in the construction of the bazaar at Taunggyi from the money borrowed from Government.

(*iv*) *Excluded Local Funds.*

396. These comprise the following funds—

Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Land Sale and Rent, Educational and Rangoon Police Reward Funds.

The Rangoon Port Trust is also an Excluded Local Fund, but the transactions do not appear in the Government books.

The transactions of these funds during the year under report were as follows :—

Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cantonment	11,122	1,78,221	1,89,343	1,73,552	15,791
Town	61,970	1,66,750	2,28,720	1,42,372	86,348
Port	3,05,218	2,69,867	5,75,085	2,86,005	2,89,080
Pilot	1,44,202	3,54,707	4,98,909	3,49,762	1,49,147
Land Sale and Rent ...	19,840	2,99,335	3,19,175	2,94,301	24,874
Syndicate ... General	26,160	26,730	52,890	29,257	23,633
Syndicate ... College	15,473	84,751	1,00,224	83,867	16,357
Syndicate ... Collegiate School ...	13,707	60,218	73,925	54,355	19,570
Rangoon Police Reward	120	696	816	754	62
Rangoon Port Trust	5,60,999	15,07,264	20,68,263	14,25,520	6,42,743
Total ...	11,58,811	29,48,539	41,07,350	28,39,745	12,67,605

The nature of the funds has been described in previous reports.

397. The total outlay on public works from these funds during the year under report was—

	Rs.
Cantonment Funds	13,744
Town Funds	46,319
Port Funds	30,882
Syndicate College Fund	105
Syndicate Collegiate School Fund	281
Rangoon Port Trust...	3,85,760

The only Excluded Local Funds which were indebted either to Government or to the Public at the close of the year 1901-02 are the Mergui Port Fund, which was indebted to Government to the extent of Rs. 34,395, and the Rangoon Port Trust, which was indebted to the public to the extent of Rs. 2,94,041.

398. There are seven Cantonment Funds, namely, those at Mandalay, Rangoon, Bhamo, Meiktila, Shwebo, Maymyo and Thayetmyo.

399. There are four Pilot Funds, namely, those at Rangoon, Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein.

400. The number of Town Funds has been increased from seven at the beginning of the year to nine, owing to the creation of two new funds, with effect from April 1901 and January 1902, one at Magwe and the other at Minhla.

Municipal Funds.

401. Excluding the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, which do not bank with Government, there are 40 Municipalities.

The transactions of the Municipal Funds as above during the year 1901-02 were as follows:—

Province.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.	
					Treasury.	Civil Surgeon's cash book.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lower Burma ...	4,21,490	13,47,877	17,69,367	13,28,338	4,40,551	478
Upper Burma ...	2,28,729	11,09,054	13,37,783	11,70,788	1,66,449	546
Total ...	6,50,219	24,56,931	31,07,150	24,99,126	6,07,000	1,024

402. The liabilities of Municipalities as regards loans on the 31st March 1902 were as detailed below:—

DUE TO GOVERNMENT.

	Rs.
Prome ...	35,753
Mergui ...	724
Yandoon ...	41,892
Akyab ...	7,404
Shwegyin ...	4,654
Sandoway ...	1,719
Letpadan ...	2,149
Henzada ...	7,447
Kyaukse ...	1,253

DUE TO THE PUBLIC.

Rangoon Municipality—

Drainage works ...	16,67,500
Drainage works ...	4,00,000
High pressure water-supply ...	3,00,000
High level water-works ...	7,10,000
Town Lands Reclamation works ...	6,42,000
Thirty years public loan, 1900 ...	7,35,000
Twenty years public loan, 1900 ...	4,23,000
Twenty years public loan, 1901 ...	3,74,000
Thirty years public loan, 1901 ...	5,00,000

Moulmein Municipality—

Street lighting ...	80,000
Water works ...	1,26,000

403. There are two other classes of Trust Funds, namely, Official Assignee's and Cemetery Endowment Funds. These funds do not bank with Government and their accounts are not shown in the Government books.

404. There are three Educational Endowment Funds, namely, Jardine, Rénoung, and Copleston. These funds do not bank with Government Treasuries and their accounts are not shown in the Government books.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

(v) Paper Currency.

405. The circulation of notes on the 31st March of each year since the office was first opened in August 1883 has been as follows:—

	Rs.
31st March 1884	20,90,495
31st March 1885	13,36,705
31st March 1886	15,86,780
31st March 1887	32,01,200
31st March 1888	37,42,850
31st March 1889	28,44,310
31st March 1890	28,90,800
31st March 1891	53,11,715
31st March 1892	39,46,175
31st March 1893	66,77,090
31st March 1894	39,75,125
31st March 1895	56,50,720
31st March 1896	49,28,225
31st March 1897	53,57,155
31st March 1898	59,46,620
31st March 1899	58,85,090
31st March 1900	75,89,640
31st March 1901	101,51,090
31st March 1902	104,01,775

406. The issues and receipts of notes for the two years 1900-01 and 1901-02 have been as follows:—

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
	Rs.	Rs.
1900-01	15,94,74,265	15,69,12,815
1901-02	14,86,47,015	14,83,96,330

The details by denomination are—

Denomination.	Issues.		Receipts.	
	1900-01.	1901-02.	1900-01.	1901-02.
1	2	3	4	5
Rs.	No.	No.	No.	No.
5	24,463	26,013	24,265	26,396
10	403,047	411,458	395,181	405,825
20	36,209	43,161	38,229	40,535
50	29,116	27,319	29,456	27,068
100	279,630	311,147	268,383	298,615
500	5,357	3,769	5,412	3,749
1,000	44,380	39,684	43,988	39,776
10,000	7,812	6,949	7,707	7,053
Total	830,014	869,500	812,621	849,017

407. The following table shows the circulation by details of denomination on the 31st March for the two years 1900-01 and 1901-02.

Year.	5	10	20	50	100	500	1,000	10,000	Pieces.	Value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
										Rs.
31st March 1901.	8,114	91,170	9,891	7,710	47,280	297	1,419	232	1661 13	1,01,51,090
31st March 1902.	7,731	96,803	12,517	7,961	59,812	317	1,327	128	186,596	1,04,01,775

The circulation of notes of the denominations of Rs. 10 to Rs. 100 shows an increase in comparison with the previous year, particularly in the case of Rs. 100 notes, while there is a falling off in the circulation of Rs. 5 notes.

The decrease in the circulation of notes of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 10,000 on the 31st March 1902, as compared with the corresponding date of preceding year was chiefly due to the number of notes of these denominations held by the Bank of Bengal, Rangoon, out of notes issued in payment of telegraphic transfers from Calcutta being smaller than on the last day of the previous year.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1901.
Triennial report on Civil Hospitals and dispensaries in Burma for the years 1899—1901.
Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1899-1900 to 1901-1902.
Seventh issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1901-1902. Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals), XVI (Vaccination).

Births and deaths.

Vital statistics.

408. The system of registration is the same as in previous years, but the data composing the vital statistics have been based on the new census of 1901. The total population of Burma by this enumeration was 9,252,175 or an increase of 1,624,607 or 21·29 per cent. over the census of 1891. These figures exclude the population of the Shan States, Chin Hills, the frontier districts of Bhamo and Katha, and the Karenni country, which came under the Census operations for the first time in 1901. As compared with the previous decennium there has been an increase of 1,085,238 or 24 per cent. in the population of the areas under registration.

Births.

409. In Lower Burma there was an increase of 6,682 over the number of births in the previous year, and the births exceeded the deaths by 57,300.

Mortality.

410. The mortality was less than in 1900 by 2,149 deaths and though somewhat more than the previous five years' average, yet the excess difference is entirely under the headings "Injuries and Other Causes;" this possibly indicates an improvement in the recording of deaths generally.

Principal diseases.

411. The mortality from cholera was 3,552 or 112 more than in 1900. Small-pox was less prevalent than cholera and numbered 546 less than in the previous year. As in the previous year the outbreak was most prevalent in the Irrawaddy and Tenasserim divisions. The Upper province was practically free of both complaints. One hundred and sixty-two packets of quinine less than in 1900 were disposed of. The fact that there was less malarial fever during 1901 possibly accounts for the decrease. There has been no indigenous case of plague as yet.

Emigration and Immigration.

412. The total number of immigrants who entered the ports of the province during 1901-02 was 154,690, 141,917 at Rangoon and 11,983 at Akyab. The total number of emigrants was 114,224, of whom 95,050 left from Rangoon and 17,130 from Akyab. In 1900-01 the immigrants numbered 163,144 and the emigrants 120,536.

Medical Relief.

General.

413. Generally speaking there has been steady progress in the number of institutions, and in the total number of all classes of patients treated with a corresponding increase of expenditure. Six new dispensaries were opened and two were closed. There were 115 hospitals and dispensaries under Government supervision opened in the beginning of 1901 and 119 at its close. The aggregate number of patients both in and out treated in these dispensaries was 897,227 as compared with 860,398 during 1900 and 819,288 in 1899. Of the in-patients 29,552 or 75·6 per cent. were "cured," 3,853 or 9·9 per cent. were "relieved," 1,398 or 3·6 per cent. "discharged otherwise" and 2,854 or 7·3 per cent. "died" during 1901. The corresponding ratios for the previous year were 73·5, 10·5, 4·5 and 7·5 per cent. respectively. The daily average attendance during the year has increased from 1,483 to 1,588. The number of men, women, and children treated were

VI. VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

537,184, 156,049, and 203,994, or 68, 16 and 16 per cent. respectively against 70, 15 and 15 per cent. in the previous year.

Principal diseases.

414. There was a large increase in the number of cases treated in hospitals under small-pox, primary syphilis, debility and anæmia, diseases of the nervous system, and diseases of the eye and ear.

Surgical operations.

415. The number of surgical operations performed has steadily increased from 17,154 in 1899, 19,061 in 1900 to 20,549 in 1901.

Financial.

416. The receipts during the year (including the opening balance of Rs. 59,650) amounted Rs. to 8,12,817, as against Rs. 7,48,535 in 1900 and Rs. 6,13,800 in 1899. Government contributed Rs. 11,896 less than in the year previous and local and other funds Rs. 66,127 more.

The expenditure has increased from Rs. 5,73,516 in 1899 to Rs.6,87,385 in 1900 and to Rs. 7,37,639 in 1901. The increase has been principally due to the opening of new hospitals and to the increase in salary of members of the Medical staff who have attained to higher grades.

Railway, Military Police and private hospitals.

417. The number of patients treated in these institutions during the year (including both in and out-door) was 159,788 as compared with 118,573 in 1900, the ratio of success being practically the same each year.

As usual malarial fevers head the list. Next in order come ulcers, other diseases of the digestive and respiratory systems, dyspepsia, other diseases of the skin, etc. Two hundred and twenty-two cases of confinement were attended to in the Maternity hospital.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

418. Thirty-five per cent. of the income, or 20 per cent. less than in the previous year, was spent by Municipalities on sanitary works, and 25 and 13 per cent. of the income as against 28 and 12 in the preceding year has been expended on drainage and water-supply respectively in rural areas.

Water-supply.

419. The Thamaing scheme for supplying water for Rangoon has been set aside on financial grounds and the Hlawga project undertaken instead. A revised water-supply scheme has been prepared for Akyab and water supplies for Mandalay and Moulmein are in progress. Well water-supply schemes have been framed for Minbu, Letpadan and Yamèthin and a gravitation scheme for Myingyan.

Plague.

420. There have been no indigenous cases of plague during the year, but 5 suspicious cases, of which 3 proved fatal, were reported as occurring amongst passengers arriving in Rangoon by sea.

Vaccination.

General results.

421. Though the average number of Vaccinators and Native Superintendents of Vaccination employed during the year was slightly greater than that in the previous year, the number of operations fell from 410,461 in 1900-01 to 352,976 in 1901-02. The decline was most marked in the following districts :—

(1) Sandoway, (2) Hanthawaddy, (3) Tharrawaddy, (4) Thôngwa, (5) Bassein, (6) Amherst, (7) Thatôn, (8) Mandalay, (9) Shwebo, (10) Sagaing, (11) Pakôkku.

The Thôngwa and Thatôn districts are principally accountable for the decline. The reasons assigned by the Civil Surgeons for the falling off are various. But possibly it is due in the main to inoculation being greatly in favour with the Burmans and consequently carried on, of course secretly, in spite of measures for its suppression.

Dispensary Vaccination.

422. The number of primary vaccinations fell from 6,653 to 3,971, but the number of re-vaccinations rose from 2,797 to 3,277. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations was considerably higher than that in the previous year being 76·38 against 63·57, but it is lower than that for the whole province. Several

districts returned a full percentage of successes. The percentage of re-vaccination is still too high though it has somewhat improved during the year having fallen from 47·59 to 44·61. VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

423. From the marginally noted figures it will be seen that though there has been a slight improvement in the number of operations performed within the Rangoon Municipality still the quality of the work has deteriorated. In fact the percentage of success is lowest during the year under report. **Vaccination in Rangoon.**

Year.	Primary.	Re-vaccination.	Percentage of success.		Average number vaccinated per vaccinator.
			Primary vaccination.	Re-vaccination.	
1897-98	8,368	3,679	91·01	74·01	2,409
1898-99	5,692	6,140	96·91	80·42	2,366
1899-00	2,491	4,053	98·64	71·53	1,309
1900-01	2,265	2,677	75·76	61·00	988
1901-02	3,969	2,309	56·67	45·33	1,046

424. The amount of inspection work performed by Civil Surgeons shows a slight improvement; that by the Native Superintendents is still low. **Verification of results.**

425. The expenditure in this department was slightly over that in the previous year. Government bore 25·6 per cent. of the expenditure against 22 per cent. in the previous year, the balance being met from Local and Municipal Funds. The increased expenditure from Government Funds is due to the opening of the Vaccine depôt at Meiktila. The average cost of each successful case varied from 15 annas 9 pies in the Salween Hill Tracts, 15 annas 7 pies in the Chin Hills, 13 annas 7 pies in Rangoon and Thatôn, 13 annas 6 pies in Thôngwa to 1 anna 8 pies in Shwebo and Lower Chindwin districts. **Finance.**

426. Glycerinated or lanolinized calf lymph was manufactured in the Rangoon, Mandalay and Taunggyi depôts for use in the province. Small quantities for local use were prepared at Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. Some Municipalities got supplies also from Bangalore. Civil Surgeons report that lymph obtained from calves vaccinated with paste received from Bangalore gives very good results. The reason why local lymph is less effective than the Bangalore lymph is said to be that Burman calves do not develop vesicles like Indian calves. As the lymph manufactured at Taunggyi yielded very poor results, the depôt was closed in June 1901 and the establishment brought to Rangoon to assist the Health Officer. A depôt was subsequently opened at Meiktila and lymph is being manufactured there. **Animal lymph.**

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Quinquennial Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the five years ending 1901-1902.
Seventh issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1901-1902 and preceding years. Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools) and XII (The Press).

System of education.

427. THE Education Department is under the control of the Director of Public Instruction with a staff consisting of four European Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State. There is no Provincial Educational Service in Burma. Each Inspector is assisted by an Assistant Inspector. The subordinate staff consists of thirty-eight Deputy Inspectors and one Sub-Inspector. In most of the towns in Lower Burma the general control of educational affairs is entrusted to the Municipal or Town Committee under the guidance of the officers of the department. In Upper Burma Municipalities have not hitherto taken any part in the management of educational matters. In addition to the Education Department there is a body called the Educational Syndicate who provide for the conduct of Provincial Examinations and manage the Rangoon College. The province has no separate University. There are two colleges which are affiliated to the Calcutta University, one up to the B.A., the other up to the F.A. Standard. Secondary schools are classed as High and Middle. In the former pupils are taught up to the Calcutta Entrance Standard; in the latter up to the Seventh Standard Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular. There are no District or Local Boards in Burma. The Education Department maintains three High schools and one Middle Anglo-Vernacular school. Of the remainder of the Anglo-Vernacular schools, a certain proportion in Lower Burma are maintained from Municipal funds, but the majority are maintained by Missionary bodies receiving assistance from Provincial funds under the grant-in-aid rules. A considerable number of Vernacular Middle schools are maintained by private enterprise. Turning to Primary education a special feature in Burma is the instruction given by the *pôngyis* or Buddhist monks. In almost every village throughout the province there is a monastery where one of the principal duties of the presiding *pôngyi* is the instruction of the children belonging to the village: no fees are charged in these schools. Many of them have been brought under the inspection of the department. Other schools are established by lay teachers. These Primary schools are assisted by itinerant teachers appointed by the department and working under the orders of the Deputy Inspectors. It is their special duty to assist the Deputy Inspectors in finding out new schools, bringing them under tuition and registration and spreading Primary education in the districts. Besides the Indigenous schools most of the Middle and High schools have primary departments attached to them. There are also special schools for non-Burman races. In the case of Indigenous schools aid is given from public funds in the shape of result-grants, grants for pupil teachers and special grants for building, furniture, &c. Schools other than Indigenous schools receive aid in the shape of result-grants, building equipment grants and grants of half-salary for certificated teachers. The training of teachers is provided for at twelve Normal schools, of which seven are Anglo-Vernacular and five Vernacular.

Control.

428. The policy of Government has up to the present been not to establish or directly manage schools and colleges of its own but to inspect, regulate and assist schools established and managed by private persons or associations.

The only exception has been in connection with training institutions, the School of Engineering at Insein and the Government High School, Minbu, private enterprise not being competent to manage these.

429. The policy has somewhat changed owing to the proposals submitted to the Government of India by the Simla Conference of 1901. The management of three Municipal schools, those at Bassein, Akyab and Shwegyin, has been taken over by Government, and the Rangoon Municipality has also handed over control. Sanction has been accorded by the Secretary of State to the transfer of the management of the Rangoon College and the Collegiate School from the Educational Syndicate to Government; the transfer of the former has not yet been effected. Government schools are to be opened in places where private enterprise cannot extend; and Government Primary Vernacular schools for boys and for girls are to be opened at certain centres, to be determined on, to serve as model schools. It has been found that under private enterprise education has not spread to the extent necessary for the needs of the province. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

430. The rules of the Government in the Education Department are to be found in the Education Code, which is revised every five years, conferences of managers being called to submit proposals for the revision. The Code as revised contains the working experience of the previous five years. The last edition, the fifth, was issued in January 1901.

431. The persons responsible, with the officers of the Education Department, for the Educational administration of the province, have been—

(*a*) the officers of the Civil administration from Commissioners to Myoôks; and

(*b*) Municipal and Town Committees.

The educational budgets are arranged by them in consultation with the department and supplemented, where necessary, from Provincial and District funds.

432. Primary Vernacular education in the Eastern, Western and Central circles, except in the Minbu division, is supported by funds allotted from the district cess and municipalities, supplemented by contributions from Provincial. In the Northern circle Provincial funds provide the whole cost; all payments are regulated by the rules of the Code.

433. The control formerly exercised by the Educational Syndicate has ceased to exist. It is now an advising body. It advises the Government on questions referred to it and conducts for the Government the Myoôkship, Advocateship, Thugyiship, Teacher's certificate and Clerkship examinations besides holding an examination in Burmese, corresponding to the Departmental examination, for those not in Government service.

434. The province has no District or Local Boards or District Committees of Public instruction.

435. Since 1892-93 the division of the province for educational purposes into Upper and Lower Burma has been done away with. There are now four circles,—Eastern, Western, Central and Northern, under four Inspectors of Schools, all of whom are appointed by the Secretary of State for India and belong to the Indian Educational Service. Under them, as stated above, are four Assistant Inspectors of Schools, 38 Deputy Inspectors and one Sub-Inspector of Schools for the supervision of Talaing work in the Amherst district. Three Assistant Inspectors were appointed in August 1898 and one in April 1900. Their business is to supervise the work of the Deputy Inspectors, in connection with Vernacular education. They and the Inspectors of Schools are responsible for the state of education, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular, in their respective circles. The grade of Sub-Inspector has been abolished, and Itinerant teachers have been appointed instead. There are at present 169 of them. A certain number are appointed to each district and their business is, as their name signifies, to go round and find out unregistered schools and teach the managers, so as to fit them for the small requirements of registration. Inspection.

436. For the special supervision of Vernacular primary education in monastic and in lay schools each circle of inspection is divided into sub-circles, each corresponding with a civil district and placed under a Deputy Inspector of Schools. In

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

three cases a sub-circle corresponds with two civil districts, and one sub-circle owing to its size has two Deputy Inspectors. Those sub-circles that have Karen schools are grouped together and given a Karen Deputy Inspector as well. One Tamil Deputy Inspector of Schools is appointed for the Central and Eastern circles and Rangoon Town.

The circles are divided as follows:—

Eastern.—Tenasserim division;
Western.—Arakan and Irrawaddy divisions;
Central.—Pegu and Minbu divisions;
Northern.—Mandalay, Sagaing, and Meiktila divisions.

Rangoon, for Anglo-Vernacular work, is under the Inspectors of the Eastern, Western and Central circles, and for Vernacular work under the Inspector of Schools, Eastern circle.

Classification of educational institutions.

437. Educational institutions are classified as colleges and schools, Anglo-Vernacular or Vernacular, public or private.

438. Colleges teach pupils who have passed the Entrance or Matriculation examination for the F.A. examination only if they are second grade, and for the F.A., the B.A. and the M.A. degrees in Arts or other degrees in Science, Engineering, Law or Medicine, if they are first grade. Burma has two colleges, one second and one first grade in Arts, the latter with Law classes attached to it. It has no Science, Engineering, Law or Medical colleges. Of the two colleges, one is under Government and the other, under the Baptist Mission, is aided by Government.

439. Schools are private or public, indigenous or non-indigenous, general or special, primary or secondary, Vernacular or Anglo-Vernacular, under public or private management, Government or aided.

Public schools are those—

(*a*) in which the course of study conforms to the standards prescribed by the Government or a University and

(*b*) which are inspected by the Department and present pupils at the public examinations held by the Department or by a University.

440. An indigenous school is one established by natives of Burma or India, and conducted on purely Vernacular lines. It may be monastic or lay. The former are conducted in monasteries by monks and admit no girls: the latter are for boys or girls or both. Vernacular schools conducted by missionaries are classed for purposes of examination and of receiving grants as indigenous.

441. Special schools are of four kinds: Training, Survey, Engineering and Industrial.

442. Training schools are Government and aided. Survey schools are supported by Government and are under the supervision of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture. There is one school of Engineering, which was opened in April 1895. It prepares for the Upper and Lower Subordinate grades of the Public Works Department. Pupils are no longer sent to Calcutta for Engineering training. Students in medicine of the Hospital Assistant class go to Madras and those of the Assistant Surgeon and Female classes, to Calcutta, for training.

443. Now that the Reformatory school has been transferred to the Education Department, the province has one industrial school. There are, however, industrial classes attached to the schools for general instruction. They teach such subjects as weaving, printing, carpentering, blacksmith's-work, lace-making, tailoring, dress-making, &c.

444. There are ten standards of instruction, from the infant to the ninth, for Vernacular and for Anglo-Vernacular schools. The first three are Lower Primary, the next two Upper Primary, the next three Middle or Lower Secondary, and the last two High or Upper Secondary. The Ninth Standard, Anglo-Vernacular, is the Entrance. After passing it, a student may enter an Arts College.

445. Vernacular schools are those in which no English is taught: Anglo-Vernacular, those in which English and a Vernacular are taught in every standard from the lowest to the highest.

446. An institution is considered to be under public management when it is under the direct management of Government or of officers or committees acting on behalf of Government or of local committees constituted by law. They receive no grants-in-aid. Schools under private management in Burma are all aided. VII—INSTRUCTION.

447. There are two systems of aid: one under the "grant-in-aid rules for Anglo-Vernacular schools" and one under the "grant-in-aid rules for indigenous schools." System of aid.

(a) Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

Before a school is eligible for grants it has to be registered under the rules for registration. The grants are of eight kinds—

(a) *Ordinary* or *maintenance* grants, calculated on the difference between the income and expenditure, the income from fees being calculated on definite rules as to the rate of fee and remissions;
(b) *Boarding* grants for each pupil supplied with board and lodging on the school premises;
(c) *Results* grants for technical subjects;
(d) *Special* grants to supplement private expenditure on buildings, furniture and apparatus;
(e) *Salary* grants to fully certificated teachers;
(f) *Fixed* grants, tenable for five years, subject to progress and to the observance of the rules laid down by the department;
(g) *Normal school* grants;
(h) *Extra* grants for Europeans and for girls;
(i) *Cadet* grants for every European or Eurasian cadet who is efficient during the year.

All grants, except the last, are subject to the condition that the total given to a school must not exceed the amount contributed during the previous year from private sources.

Results grants, except for technical subjects, have been abolished.

(b) Indigenous Schools.

448. Indigenous schools are maintained by Burmans, Karens, Tamils, Telugus, Chins, Kachins, Muhammadans, Talaings, Taungthus and Manipuris, and by missionary societies. As in the case of Anglo-Vernacular schools these schools have to be registered. The requirements for registration are—

(a) That the school has a working session of at least four months;
(b) That at least four pupils are able to read and write their Vernacular as judged by Standard I;
(c) That the school passes pupils within a year of registration by the recognized standards.

The aid given is of six kinds—

(a) *Results* grants;
(b) *Pupil-teacher* grants;
(c) *Special* grants for buildings, furniture and apparatus;
(d) *Salary* grants for two years to enable managers to maintain themselves till fees and results grants render their schools self-supporting;
(e) *Karen teachers' system* grants;
(f) *Extra* grants for girls.

Training institutions.

449. The training of teachers for Vernacular and for Anglo-Vernacular work has received special attention. There are now three Government and nine aided Normal schools, training men and women. A special Government training school has been opened in Toungoo to prepare Primary-grade teachers for work in the Karen hills. The possession of a teacher's certificate is insisted upon for all appointments, from Deputy Inspector of Schools to Itinerant teacher. No Anglo-Vernacular teacher may be appointed to any school, Government, Municipal or aided, without a certificate, and a full certificate entitles the holder to draw half salary, within certain limits, from the Government. To encourage indigenous school-managers to qualify, a higher rate of grant is given to certificated men.

Education of special classes.

450. The education of backward tribes is fully attended to by the Department. Those of a specially backward nature are given extra grants and in their cases

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the rules are considerably relaxed. Extra grants are also given in the case of European schools owing to the greater cost of maintenance.

451. A special form of aid to European orphans holds in Burma—

(*a*) A fixed number of monthly stipends, tenable for three years, awarded annually towards the maintenance and education of orphans, at approved institutions;

(*b*) A fixed number of boarder stipends, tenable for three years, to enable poor European parents to send their children to boarding schools;

(*c*) A fixed number of apprentice stipends, tenable by apprentices at approved workshops.

These stipends are awarded by Boards at Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab and Mandalay, under rules laid down in the Code. No stipends are paid except on account of children who are actually under instruction. The stipends are tenable subject to good conduct and progress.

452. An examination in Pâli is held annually in Mandalay, Rangoon and Moulmein, to which monks, laymen and nuns are admitted. This is known as the Patamabyan. It is divided into three grades: Patamangè, Patamalat and Patamagyaw. The man who heads the list in the last grade is known as "*The Patamagyaw*" of the year. His certificate is specially presented to him by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. The Patamagyaw is exempted for life from *thathameda* or capitation-tax, as the case may be. If he is a *pôngyi*, his natural parents are so exempted. Rewards and certificates are given for passes in each grade. To any candidate who is forbidden by his habits of life to take money presents of robes of equal value are made. The examination is very popular and has done much to enlist the sympathies of the monks.

Examinations.

453. The examinations held in Burma are of two kinds (*a*) *University and* (*b*) *Provincial*. The former consist of the Entrance, F.A. and B.A. examinations of the Calcutta University. The latter are conducted by the Education Department and consist of the examinations of standards Infant to Eighth, Anglo-Vernacular, and Infant to Ninth, Vernacular; school of engineering, upper and lower subordinate grades; pupil teachers, first and second years, theoretical and first, second and third years, practical; normal schools, first and second years, theoretical and practical; teachers' drawing tests; Patamabyan; Middle English scholarship; and technical examinations.

Scholarships and prizes.

454. The scholarships and prizes consist of—

(*a*) Five *senior University scholarships*, tenable for two years, by students who have passed the F.A. and read in a college for the B.A.;

(*b*) Twenty *junior University* scholarships, tenable for two years in a college, by students who have passed the Entrance and read for the F.A.;

(*c*) Thirty-eight *middle English* scholarships, tenable for two years in a high school by those students who have gained the first 38 places in the Middle English scholarship examination;
Primary scholarships have been abolished.

(*d*) Three *medical* scholarships, tenable for five years at the Medical College, Calcutta, two of which are open to candidates of Burmese and Indo-Burmese origin and one to Europeans and Eurasians whose parents are domiciled in Burma. Under 'Burmese,' Karens and Talaings are included.

455. Candidates must be over 24 years of age, and must have passed the F.A. examination, and must ultimately pass the L.M.S. degree.

(*e*) Five *Hospital Assistant* scholarships, tenable for a pre-collegiate course of one year in Burma and three years in the Madras Medical College, open to candidates of Burmese and Karen origin, of whole or half blood, and Burmese-speaking sons of Hospital Assistants who have served over 10 years in Burma. The initial qualification is the Seventh Anglo-Vernacular Standard;

(*f*) Three *female medical* scholarships, tenable for four years in the Medical College, Calcutta, by female candidates of any nationality, who are permanently domiciled in Burma, and who have passed the Entrance examination and have a knowledge of Burmese equivalent to the Seventh Standard;

(*g*) Two *Lower Subordinate* scholarships, tenable for two years in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, by a candidate of Burman or Indo-Burman origin who has passed the Seventh Standard;

(*h*) One *Upper Subordinate* scholarship, tenable for two years in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, by a candidate of Burman or Indo-Burman origin who has passed the Entrance;

(*i*) Two *Maung Ohn Ghine* scholarships, tenable under certain specified conditions detailed in the Code, for two years each, in the Upper and Lower Subordinate classes respectively, of the Government School of Engineering, Insein;

(*j*) One *Maung Ohn Ghine* medal, awarded annually to that pupil of the Government School of Engineering, Insein, who gains the highest marks in the final test for the Upper Subordinate class;

(*k*) One *Copleston* prize, open to students, male or female, reading in a recognized normal school, both of whose parents are either Burmese, Talaing, Karen, Chin, Shan or Kachin, who stand first in the Vernacular secondary grade Teachers' Test examination;

(*l*) One *Governor of Renaung* prize, the product of an endowment by His Excellency Khaw Sein Kong, awarded annually in the Government Collegiate School, Rangoon, to the best scholar of the year in the Entrance, in English and Burmese;

(*m*) One *Jardine* prize, awarded to the student of the Rangoon College who passes highest in the first division of the F.A. examination.

St. Barbe, Bigandet, and Gilbert scholarships and medal.

456. The Educational Syndicate awards from funds in its keeping to women three scholarships a year, known as the *St. Barbe* scholarships, tenable for one year in the Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon. They also award two scholarships, known as the *Bigandet* scholarships, tenable in the Calcutta Medical College for five years, to candidates, male or female, who are domiciled in Burma, have a fluent knowledge of Burmese and have passed the F.A. examination, if male, and the Entrance, if female.

457. The *Bigandet* medal is awarded every three years to any person who is either a native of, or is domiciled in, Burma and who has, during the three years preceding the date of award, distinguished himself or herself by marked success at an university or professional examination or by the publication of any literary or scientific work of exceptional merit.

458. The *Gilbert* scholarship is tenable on the technical side of the Rangoon College by a selected student who has passed the Anglo-Vernacular Seventh Standard. Till such technical side is opened, it is tenable in any approved workshop.

Railway workshop apprentices.

459. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, entertain a number of apprentices, limited to 35 Europeans and Eurasians and 35 natives of Burma. The apprentice-ships last for five years. Government supplies a teacher for English, a teacher for mensuration, practical geometry and mechanical drawing and a caretaker for the native barracks.

Text-book Committee.

460. The Text-book Committee, under the presidency of the Director of Public Instruction, formerly occupied itself with Vernacular literature only. It has been lately reconstituted under the orders of the Government of India and deals with English as well. It consists of the President and a Committee of not more than 20 members, official and non-official, appointed by the Government. It chooses and prepares text-books and submits them for the orders of the Government as

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to their adoption as text-books in the schools of the province. The Vernacular work is done by an Editor, a Sub-Editor and a staff of translators. Books prepared by the Text-book Committee are given to Publishers for five years under certain rules laid down in the Code, the Government retaining the copyright and giving to the Publishers the right to publish and sell for five years on payment of a royalty.

Education.

Education Code.

461. WORK during the year has been carried on under the rules of the 5th Edition of the Education Code, which was issued after the Quinquennial Conference of 1900-01.

Primary and Secondary Education.

462. The question of providing the necessary funds for the extension of Primary Education has been further considered during the year with the result that the grants earned by Managers have been more fully met. It is hoped that 1902-03 will see provision made in full from Municipal and District Cess Funds supplemented where necessary by Provincial Funds.

Inspection and control.

463. Inspection and control have been effective and thorough. Educational officers of all grades have worked with the greatest sympathy and in the closest touch with Managers of Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Schools both in the course of inspections and by holding Conferences of Managers at various centres.

Hostels. Inter-school rules. Discipline.

464. Boarding establishments and hostels are numerous and well-managed Everything is done to ensure well-ordered surroundings; and cleanliness, obedience, respect and punctuality are insisted on. The Inter-school rules have been strictly enforced to the great advantage of discipline. Everything has been done to influence pupils for good by precept and by example. The Code has definite rules in these matters for the guidance of schools; all that is wanted is for parents and guardians to co-operate more than they do with the educational authorities.

General statistics of institutions and of the members attending them.

465. The total number of institutions, public and private, has risen from 17,599 in 1900-01 to 18,284 in 1901-02 and the attendance from 307,076 to 316,250. The number of public institutions rose from 4,481 to 4,741, and the attendance from 159,394 to 162,748.

Finance.

466. The total expenditure has risen from Rs. 17,56,708 to Rs. 17,95,662, including fees which have risen from Rs. 3,49,224 to Rs. 3,93,711. Provincial Funds show an increase of Rs. 1,660 and Local Funds of Rs. 13,529, while Municipal Funds and Other Sources show a decrease of Rs. 13,367 and Rs. 7,445 respectively. The rise in fees is noteworthy. They have risen from Rs. 2,42,860 in 1896-97 to Rs. 3,93,711 in 1901-02. The percentage of increase and decrease in expenditure from Public Funds, Local Funds, Municipal Funds, Fees and Other Sources is +·2, +7, —·8, +13 and—4, against +12, +6, +16, +10 and +·7 in 1900-01.

Under *Direct* expenditure Arts colleges show an increase of Rs. 15,105, Secondary schools of Rs. 48,632, Primary schools of Rs. 18,346 and Other Special schools of Rs. 2,101. Training schools show a decrease of Rs. 2,503.

Under *Indirect* expenditure Direction, Scholarships and Furniture show increases of Rs. 993, Rs. 2,729 and Rs. 2,177 respectively, while Inspections, Buildings and Miscellaneous show decreases of Rs. 936, Rs. 45,180 and Rs. 2,598 respectively.

Educational Syndicate.

467. The proposals referred to in last year's report to hand over the Rangoon College and Collegiate School to the Government have received the sanction of the Secretary of State. The Collegiate School has been taken over, but the handing over of the College has been postponed till orders are received on certain further questions as to the terms to be offered to the Principal and Lecturers.

The proposals for the establishment of a Burma University were negatived.

The General Body met twice and the Executive Committee 16 times during the year. The Hon'ble F. S. Copleston was succeeded as President in April by the Hon'ble H. Thirkell White, C.I.E., Chief Judge of the Chief Court of Lower Burma.

Collegiate Education.

468. The number of Colleges remains the same—one First grade, the Rangoon College, and one Second grade, the Baptist Mission College. The attendances show

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increases from 130 to 138 in the Rangoon College and from 10 to 14 in the Baptist College. There are no Professional Colleges. The Rangoon College sent up 55 pupils for the F. A., of whom 25 passed, and 17 for the B. A., of whom six passed. The College has suffered much from unavoidable changes in its staff. The Baptist College sent up 8 boys for the F. A. and 3 passed. There is a Law school attached to the Rangoon College with 7 students. It was abolished in 1898-99 and re-opened in 1900-01.

Upper and Lower Secondary Education.

469. There were in 1901-02 76 English Secondary schools for boys with an attendance of 13,326 and 254 Vernacular Secondary schools for boys with an attendance of 16,013 making a total of 330 schools and 29,334 pupils against 296 schools and 27,046 pupils in 1900-01. There were 39 schools for girls with an attendance of 3,305. The attendance in the schools for boys includes boys and girls.

The passes by the Entrance examination in 1901-02 were 122—117 boys and 1 girl, 2 private candidates and 2 teachers; 249 went up in all, 6 passed in the First, 52 in the Second and 64 in the Third division. The passes by the Eighth Standard or Preparatory Entrance were 194, all boys. In the Eighth and Ninth Standard Vernacular Examinations 16 out of 40 passed the former and 9 out of 14 the latter. By the Anglo-Vernacular Seventh, Sixth and Fifth Standards 1,878 pupils passed and by the corresponding Vernacular ones 1,006, of whom 54 and 50 respectively were girls. This is an improvement all around on the figures for 1900-01.

The total expenditure on Secondary schools for boys was Rs. 6,33,957, towards which Government contributed Rs. 2,67,598.

Primary Education.

470. The number of Primary schools for boys was 3,927. The attendance decreased by 815. The passes increased from 52,661 to 55,392, of which number 10,386 were girls. Primary Education represents Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular work among Europeans and Eurasians, Burmans, Karens (*Sgau, Pwo, Bghai* and *Paku*), Muhammadans, Tamils, Telugus, Kachins, Shans, Chins, Talaings, Taungthus, Chinese and Manipuris.

The total expenditure on Primary Education was Rs. 3,21,935 against Rs. 2,56,740 in 1900-01.

Special Instruction.

471. As was the case last year special attention was paid to the establishment, equipment and organization of Training schools for men and for women. On March 31st 1902 there were 3 Government Normal schools with 229 pupils, 3 Aided with 160 pupils for men and 6 Aided with 111 pupils for women. The 12 schools have an attendance of 500. The total expenditure on the former was Rs. 43,205 and on the latter Rs. 9,676.

In the 1st and 2nd year Normal school and pupil-teachers' examinations the following were the passes:—

For men.—Anglo-Vernacular Secondary 18, Anglo-Vernacular Primary 17, Vernacular Secondary 38 and Vernacular Primary 4.

For women.—Anglo-Vernacular Secondary 4, Anglo-Vernacular Primary *nil*, Vernacular Secondary 12, Vernacular Primary 2.

There were 161 passes by the Secondary and Primary grades, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular, for untrained certificates, *i.e.*, for men and women not attending Normal schools. Among the successful candidates were several monks. Two hundred and fifty-six candidates out of 665 passed the final tests for trained and untrained certificates.

472. Strictly speaking there is no technical education in the province. Fifteen Government and Municipal schools and 12 Aided taught drawing. For the Teachers' Drawing Certificate Examination 384 passed the Primary and 134 the Secondary grade.

473. The Normal Training classes in the Government Normal School, Moulmein, have done well; the system is now to be extended to other Normal schools for men.

474. Vocal music drill and calisthenics are gradually making their way. There were 1 Government, 1 Municipal and 16 Aided Kindergarten schools with 222 passes in the first and 206 in the second year. Kindergarten and object lessons

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now form a part of all schools, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular, in the infant class that has now been added.

475. The Government School of Engineering, under Mr. Mitchell, is steadily increasing in numbers and efficiency. It not only trains pupils for the Upper and Lower Subordinate grades of the Public Works Department, but it gives a training to many students who do not compete for the guaranteed appointments and enables them to set up for themselves with success.

476. There were 21 Survey schools in 1901-02 against the same number in 1900-01, and the average attendance was 475 in 1901-02 against 446 in 1900-01. The cost to Government was Rs. 20,725 from Provincial Funds and Rs. 8,182 from Fees. Of the 1,186 students who were examined 23 per cent. passed in Mathematics, 72 per cent. in Surveying and 15 per cent. in Revenue Law. In 1901-02 there were 3 students in the Assistant Surgeon Class and 3 female scholars studying in Calcutta, 14 Hospital Assistants studying in Madras, 6 pre-Collegiate students studying in Burma and 12 nurses and midwives studying in the Dufferin hospital. Of the last mentioned 12 passed out, 2 Europeans, 2 Burmese and 8 Karens.

477. The apprentices in the workshops continue to receive a good training; 13 were at the Insein Railway Workshops and 14 were apprenticed to recognized workshops in Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab and Mandalay.

478. Industrial training such as weaving, lacemaking, cutting-out and dress-making, cooking and domestic economy, book-binding, printing, carpentry, black-smith's and tinsmith's work and cane-work are taken up in some schools. But when the question of the trifurcation of studies into **A** (Literary), **B** (Technical) and **C** (Commercial), ordered by the Government of India is settled, the work will be on more definite lines and technical and commercial schools will be opened.

479. The *Patamabyan* examination is increasing in popularity and a decided desire for improvement in Pâli scholarship has been shown. There were in 1901-02 58 schools and 461 pupils preparing for the *Patamabyan* examination; 374 went up and 62 passed by the various grades. The examination is by no means an easy one; as it is for the improvement of Pâli scholarship the standard is purposely kept high.

Female education.

480. There were in 1901-02 380 schools for girls with an attendance of 5,150 boys and 9,445 girls. Girls to the number of 27,310 attended boys' schools to which girls are admitted. Private schools show an attendance of 3,377 girls making the total attendance 40,132 girls. There has been an increase all round in female education.

Special classes.

481. There were 30 schools attended by Europeans against 28 in 1900-01 with an attendance of 2,188 against 2,006. One passed the B.A., 6 the F.A. and 38 the Entrance; 12 gained Middle English, 14 Junior University and 3 Senior University scholarships. The total cost was Rs. 1,33,799 against Rs. 1,65,200 in 1900-01. The income from fees was Rs. 62,411 against Rs. 63,389.

For Karen education there were 11 Anglo-Vernacular schools with 1,766 attending them and 606 Vernacular schools with an attendance of 15,979. None passed the B.A. or the F.A.

One passed the Entrance, 5 the Eighth Standard, 196 the Middle, 395 the Upper Primary and 469 the Lower Primary. Work among Tamils, Telugus and other races is steadily making way both on the Vernacular and the Anglo-Vernacular sides. Muhamadan education as a separate matter does not advance nor is it likely to. Muhamadans prefer sending their children to Government Municipal and Aided schools to opening special schools for them. We have for the first time opened work among the Taungthus.

Private schools.

482. The bulk of the private schools are purely for religious instruction. The itinerant teachers are steadily exploring them, teaching such of the managers as desire teaching, and bringing these schools on to the register. A very large proportion of them will never come up to the very small requirements of registration.

Text-books.

483. The Text-book Committee showed a very good outturn of work for the year on its Vernacular as well as on its English side.

Juvenile offenders.

484. The Reformatory school at Insein had on the 1st January 1901 92 inmates. Twenty-eight were admitted and 24 discharged. The discipline was

good: the percentage of punishments was 1·05 in 1901 against 1·16 in 1900. The health of the inmates was also satisfactory. The training of the inmates on both the literary and technical sides was carefully attended to. Of the released 1 died six months after release, 9 were reported on as bearing good characters and 8 were not reported on. Six were following the trades learnt in the school. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

Literature and the Press.

485. One hundred and thirty-four publications were registered under Act XXV of 1867 as compared with 115 in the previous year. Of these 117 were original and 17 re-publications, 11 being intended for educational purposes. Of all the works 72 were classified under the head "Religion," 10 under "Drama," nine under "Science," one under "Law," 15 under "Language," two under "Medicine," one under "History" and 24 under "Miscellaneous." Of the 134 publications registered during the year under report seven were published in English, three in English and Burmese, 34 in Burmese, 82 in Pâli-Burmese, two in Sgau-Karen, five in Pâli and one in English, Tamil, Burmese and Guzarati.

486. There are two English daily papers in the Province, the *Rangoon Gazette* and the *Rangoon Times* with average circulation of 2,000 and 1,000 copies respectively. There are two daily papers published in Burmese, *The Friend of Burma* and the *Burma Herald* issuing about 500 copies each. There are three daily publications for advertising purposes, two in English one and in Burmese. There are two newspapers published tri-weekly, both in English, one at Mandalay and one at Akyab. There are five bi-weekly newspapers, one at Rangoon in English, two at Mandalay in Burmese, one at Akyab in English and one at Moulmein in Burmese. Of weekly publications there are six, of which one relating to commercial matters is in English, two are newspapers in English, one is a newspaper in Burmese, one a newspaper in Tamil and one a religious magazine. All these are published in Rangoon, as are also all the monthly publications (except one) of which there are ten. These monthlies are all religious publications. Three are in English, four in Karen, and three in Burmese.

Literary Societies.

487. The Rangoon Literary Society is more a library and reading-room than a literary society. Similar societies exist in Mandalay and in Moulmein.

There are in Rangoon institutes in connection with the Young Men's and the Young Women's Christian Associations, where lectures are given and provision is made for board and lodging. Sanction was accorded by the Government of India in 1901 to the sale on favourable terms to the former Association of a site for a new institute, and this year a grant of Rs. 6,000 has been made by the Local Government towards the purchase of a site for a new Institute for the latter.

No other assistance has been given by Government to any of the Societies mentioned above.

488. The Rangoon Teachers' Association receives Rs. 1,200 a year from Government and has a large reference library. The objects of the association are—

(*a*) to hold meetings at stated times with the object of bringing together teachers and those interested in education for the discussion of matters bearing on the theory and practice of education;

(*b*) to illustrate by practical class work the best method of teaching;

(*c*) to encourage the production and publication of such literature as will tend to advance the cause of education;

(*d*) to form a library of permanent and periodical literature bearing on education.

All the objects of the association but the third have been fully attained.

489. The Bernard Free Library, Rangoon, which is the only free library in the province, received a contribution of Rs. 3,000 from Provincial revenues in 1900-01. Besides this there are six other libraries, one each at Rangoon, Mandalay, Moulmein, Toungoo, Thayetmyo and Minbu, supported by the monthly subscriptions of those who use them. The Mandalay library also received a grant of Rs. 600 from Municipal revenues.

Arts and Sciences.

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490. The revival of art competitions has been maintained, and under the direction of Mr. H. L. Tilly a second exhibition of the products of Burmese arts was held on the 17th and 18th January 1902 in the Jubilee Hall, Rangoon.

In some ways the result was disappointing. Silk weaving, which, particularly in and about Mandalay, employs large numbers of hands, was entirely unrepresented. In the classes for gilt lacquer (from Prome and Mandalay), for *kalaga* work (from Mandalay) and for pottery there was similarly no competition, and the exhibits of lacquerware, ivory-carving and glass mosaic were unsatisfactory. Of the wood-carving Mr. Tilly writes: "Although there was much excellent work in the details, even "the best designs were not carefully thought out. The "artists seem to have no sense of balance or propriety in composition. They "are more concerned to display wonderful expertness in execution than skilful "harmonious design."

The exhibition of bronze statuettes was encouraging, and the artists were particularly happy in their conception of fantastic attitudes. This is the more satisfactory as bronze work in Burma has hitherto been confined mainly to the casting of bells and images by what is known as the *cire perdue* method, an art practised by the Phœnicians but lost for centuries to the western world and reinvented in comparatively recent times by Benvenuto Cellini.

This method is also used by a few workmen in Mandalay in the casting of grotesque figures of demigods and goblins as ornaments, and has always been employed for casting the small fantastic statuettes with which many silversmiths embellish their larger pieces. At the exhibition in Rangoon the silverwork was of a high standard of excellence and the competition was very keen.

A successful exhibition has been held since the close of the year and specimens of the work of many of the artists competing will be on view at the Delhi Exhibition.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE:—

Report on Archæological Work in Burma for the year 1901-02.

491. Little archæological work was done in 1901-02, because the Government Archæologist was on deputation for about nine months of the year. The duties were performed during this period by the Government Translator in addition to his regular work. VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

The work for the year includes the decipherment and transcription of 77 inscriptions found in various parts of Burma.

In December 1901 His Excellency the Viceroy visited Mandalay and Pagan and in pursuance of orders then given steps have been taken for the preservation of the palace buildings and the Queen's Monastery and the restoration of the pavilions on the walls of Fort Dufferin. The establishment of a local museum near the Ananda Temple at Pagan has been put in hand. The plans and estimates of the building are under consideration.

The programme of work for 1902-03 includes measures for the preservation and architectural survey of the palace and other historic buildings at Mandalay, the establishment of the local museum at Pagan, revision of lists of buildings for conservation and a detailed Archæological Survey of Pagan.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

492. Up to the year 1877 the ecclesiastical jurisdiction over the Province was vested in the Bishop of Calcutta. In that year the See of Rangoon was created and the Right Reverend J. H. Titcomb, D.D., was consecrated as the first Bishop, exercising spiritual jurisdiction over the Province. In October 1879 an Archdeacon was appointed to the See. Dr. Titcomb having resigned the Bishopric on account of ill-health, he was succeeded by the Right Reverend J. M. Strachan, M.D., D.D., in June 1882. Owing to the annexation of Upper Burma new Letters-Patent were granted in 1888 extending the area of the Bishopric so as to include the whole of Burma. Dr. Strachan has now resigned the bishopric, his resignation taking effect from the 1st October 1902.

493. Under the Bishop are 10 Chaplains of the Bengal (Rangoon) Ecclesiastical Establishment, including the Archdeacon. One of the 10 Chaplains is posted at Dagshai, a hill station in the Punjab, in accordance with an arrangement sanctioned by the Government of India in June 1880, and another at Port Blair. There is a Registrar of the Diocese. Six other clergymen also received allowances from Government.

Ecclesiastical.

494. The town church at Mandalay was completed and consecrated by the Lord Bishop on the 16th February 1902. The churches at Myingyan and Minbu were completed and are in use. A small temporary church was erected at Maymyo by private subscriptions and is in use for services.

The Church of England boarding school for European and Eurasian girls was opened at Maymyo in January 1902.

495. The Bishop of the Diocese returned from furlough on the 26th January 1902, but on the 27th May 1902 proceeded to England on medical certificate. He has now resigned with effect from the 1st October 1902.

The Venerable J. P. Dyer, M.A., Archdeacon and Bishop's Commissary, proceeded on furlough for one year and nine months on the 31st January 1902 and the Revd. A. H. Finn was appointed to officiate during his absence.

Stationery.

496. As in previous years, the stationery required for Government use throughout the province was procured from the Government Stationery Stores, Calcutta, at a cost of Rs. 2,81,175, which, compared with Rs. 2,92,154 in 1900-01, shows a decrease of Rs. 10,979. With the exception of paper of the higher grades, of which comparatively small supplies are needed, the paper used is manufactured in the Indian Mills. These papers are still improving in finish and quality, and are well suited to all ordinary official purposes.

General Miscellaneous.

497. *Nil.*

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 254, Chief Secy., 23-12-1902—580.

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1902-03.

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SUMMARY

OF

THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF BURMA FOR THE YEAR 1902-03.

Introductory.

The chapters of last year's report containing standing information regarding the physical geography of the province, its history, the various tribes which constitute the indigenous population, and other subjects of which a permanent record is desired, have not been repeated in this year's report, which purports to supply merely a brief account of the most important facts in the history of the past year. In this report the record of Police, Judicial, Jail, and Sanitary Administration is for the calendar year 1902; that of the Forest Department and of the Land Revenue and Administration is for the year ending the 30th June 1903; and the record of other matters is for the official year ending the 31st March 1903.

Administration.

2. The Honourable Sir Frederic Fryer, K.C.S.I., held charge of the administration throughout the year. The number of divisions and districts remained unchanged. There were a few minor changes in certain townships.

Southern Shan States.

3. The Southern Shan States again enjoyed a year of prosperity, the tranquility of which was hardly disturbed by an unsuccessful attempt at a rising led by a person known as the Yezin *pôngyi*. A new school for the sons of Shan Chiefs was opened at Taunggyi, and promises to be highly successful. Disturbances in Siam adversely affected the frontier trade between that country and the Shan States, but the insurgents were prevented from crossing the border. Relations with the French officials across the frontier continued to be friendly. There was no serious outbreak of crime during the year, and the working of the civil police was satisfactory. The year was on the whole unfavourable for cultivators, the rainfall being generally inadequate. The volume of trade with Burma, both import and export, continued to decrease. The trade is seriously handicapped by the want of any means of cheap transport between the States and Burma.

Northern Shan States.

4. The Hsipaw *Sawbwa*, Hkun Saing, C.I.E., died in May 1902. His eldest son Saw Hkè succeeded him and has been recognized as *Sawbwa*. Part of North Hsenwi was brought, for purposes of revenue administration, under the direct control of the Superintendent. There was no diminution in the amount of crime in the Northern Shan States during the year, and the Chiefs showed but little energy in investigating it. The year was an unfavourable one for the crops owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the rainfall, but garden cultivation increased, and more tea was grown than in the previous year. Trade was brisk, exports by rail showing a large increase. The State of Möng Mit was again administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines District, but the young *Sawbwa* is now nearly

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of age, and it is probable that he will shortly be entrusted with the administration of the State.

Chin Hills. 5. The Chin Hills proper enjoyed another year of prosperity and progress, and indications are not wanting of the gradual adoption of more enlightened ideas and methods by the tribesmen. Tribute was collected in full without difficulty. A raid by the Lasa Chins into the Upper Chindwin District resulted in the capture of a party of Shan fishermen. These were released, but the affair still awaits final settlement. In the Pakôkku Chin Hills the year was uneventful, tribute being collected with greater ease than ever before. There was, however, a serious raid by certain villagers from beyond the frontier, which necessitated a punitive expedition.

Kachin Hills. 6. In the Kachin Hills the year was uneventful, and the tranquillity of the border was practically unbroken. Relations between British and Chinese officials improved as a result of the Manai agreement. Postal communication was established between Bhamo and Têngyüeh. The stationing of an officer of the Chinese Imperial Customs Service at the latter place has proved a valuable encouragement to the trade between China and Burma. Violent crime increased, but there was a noteworthy decrease in the number of forays into British territory from the Chinese side.

Condition of the people. 7. The general condition of the people of Burma was described in last year's report. The rainfall of the year now dealt with was generally deficient, and the harvest wasconsequently below the average, but there was nowhere any serious scarcity of the food-supply. High prices of rice and paddy prevailed in the delta districts of Lower Burma owing to a brisk export trade.

Realization of the revenue. 8. Out of more than 198 lakhs of land revenue assessed, less than Rs. 40,000 remained outstanding at the close of the year. Capitation tax, *thathameda*, and fishery revenue were also collected with no especial difficulty. In 17,009 cases warrants of attachment of property were issued for the recovery of revenue arrears, and in 1,372 cases the property attached was sold; 8,746 persons were arrested, but only 70 were actually committed to jail as defaulters.

Surveys. 9. The Survey of India completed the cadastral survey which was in progress in the Kyaukpyu district, and operations were continued in the Pakôkku and Shwebo districts in Upper Burma. Revision surveys in the Hanthawaddy and Kyauksè districts begun in the previous year were continued. Special survey staffs were employed in certain districts to deal with extensions of cultivation, and with waste-lands for which grants had been solicited. Elsewhere the work was done by the regular Supplementary Survey staff.

Settlements. 10. The settlement of certain areas in the Bassein and Myaungmya districts was completed, and the new rates notified. The Magwe Settlement Report is now under consideration. The settlement of the Katha and Shwebo districts is in progress. In Yamèthin revised rates based on settlement, and estimated to produce a large increase of revenue, were notified from the 1st July 1903. Revision settlements in the Tharrawaddy and Akyab districts were completed during the year.

Land Records. 11. The area under Supplementary Survey increased by nearly 7,000 square miles and the total assessment by over 14 lakhs. The total cost per square mile was slightly less than in the previous year. There are now 18 Government Survey Schools in the province, the total number of pupils on the 31st March being 509.

Transfers of land.

12. The numbers of sales, mortgages and redemptions of land were all higher than in the previous year. The majority of these transactions take place in the rich delta districts of Lower Burma where it is easy to borrow money on the security of land at a comparatively low rate of interest.

Waste-land.

13. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year exceeded 100,000 acres, or nearly double the acreage disposed of in 1900-01. Special officers had to be employed to deal with these cases in the districts of Lower Burma where applications were most numerous, and to dispose of arrears pending from the previous year. In Upper Burma 9,816 acres of waste-land were leased for cultivation. These figures afford no complete indication of the extension of cultivation which in reality took place, for in many cases land is merely occupied with squatters' rights, and the occupant is not compelled to take out a grant or lease.

Tenancies.

14. In Lower Burma the areas said to be occupied by agriculturists and non-agriculturists both increased. The area held by rent-paying tenants in Lower Burma increased by nearly 100,000 acres. The Government revenue is ordinarily paid by the landlord.

Legislation.

15. Four Acts passed by the Legislative Council became law during the year as Burma Acts I to IV of 1902, namely:—

I.—The Burma Village Law Amendment Act, 1902.
II.—The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1902.
III.—The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Act, 1902.
IV.—The Burma Forest Act, 1902.

Besides these, several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government. Two were introduced in Council in January 1903, namely, the Upper Burma Towns Regulation Amendment Bill, and the Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill. These were subsequently passed and have become law as Burma Acts I and II of 1903.

District Police.

16. The working of the Police was on the whole satisfactory, discipline and efficiency being well maintained. There was a somewhat larger volume of crime to deal with, and results of detection were about normal. High wages of labour rendered it as usual difficult in some districts to obtain recruits, but there were fewer resignations and desertions than in the previous year. The number of true cognizable cases dealt with increased by 1,653. A serious feature was the increase in the number of cases in which grievous hurt was caused, and cases in which a knife was used. Excise and opium cases increased in number, owing probably to larger excise establishments. There was a substantial diminution in the number of cattle thefts. The number of violent crimes committed was almost the same as in the previous year, while detection was slightly better. Villagers as usual, with few exceptions, offered little or no resistance to the attacks of robbers and dacoits, and fines were inflicted on 57 villages for that reason. The working of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code showed a slight improvement, but the percentage of success obtained in those prosecutions was again unduly low. Beat patrols brought only a few cases to light, but the surveillance over released criminals by means of beat constables was reported to be well maintained.

Railway Police. 17. The strength of the Railway Police was slightly increased owing to the extension of the Railway. Results of detection improved, and the discipline and working of the force were satisfactory. The Railway Police were not, however, successful in the cases of violent crime dealt with by them.

Military Police. 18. The conduct of the Military Police was good. A new Kachin company was raised during the year, and the question of further recruitment from indigenous races is under consideration. The state of health of the men in some districts still leaves much to be desired.

Village Police. 19. The number of village headmen in the province continued to increase. With a few exceptions their conduct was most satisfactory, and they again rendered valuable assistance to the police, more especially in serious cases. The work of the headmen's assistants, *se-ein-gaungs* and *ywagaungs*, was also satisfactory.

Rangoon Town Police. 20. The conduct of the Rangoon Police force was fair during the year. There was a decrease in the number of true cases disposed of by the Town Police, and a diminution in the amount of serious crime. Special attention was paid to the prevention of crime in Rangoon by the surveillance of criminals, night-patrolling, and the use of the preventive sections of the Rangoon Police Act, 1899. Results of detection remained about the same as in the previous year. Considerable energy was shown in prosecutions under the Gambling law.

Criminal Justice. 21. The year was not marked by any events of striking importance in the administration of criminal justice. There was, however, steady progress towards greater efficiency throughout the province. The volume of crime dealt with by the courts increased, but the increase was scarcely more than normal. The number of cases instituted during the year rose in both sections of the province, and the percentage of true to reported offences also rose slightly. There was a slight improvement in the percentage of convictions. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to the demand of security for good behaviour in Lower Burma was considerably less than in the previous year. Cases committed to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma, were more numerous than in 1901, while in Upper Burma sessions work showed some diminution. There was an increase in the number of criminal appeals preferred in both sections of the province. The number disposed of in Lower Burma was less than in 1901, but the difference was not great. Sentences of solitary confinement increased in number considerably in both Lower and Upper Burma as also did the number of whippings in lieu of other punishments. District Magistrates did a large amount of useful revisional work, and there was an increase in the number of references to the Chief Court under section 438 of the Criminal Procedure Code, as well as in the number of cases called for on the Court's own motion.

Prisons. 22. The total number of admissions to, and discharges from jails during 1902 was considerably above the average. The number of prisoners in confinement at the end of the year, as well as the daily average population, was the lowest recorded in the past ten years. The percentage of reconvictions amongst adults was lower than that for 1901. Under the head of prisoners sentenced to above six months (but not exceeding one year) and those sentenced to terms exceeding ten years there was a decrease in the number as compared with 1901, and an increase in the number of prisoners sentenced to other terms of imprisonment. There

was a considerable increase in the number of habituals identified after committal to jail, and once more the Moulmein Jail accounted for more than half these cases. The number of persons committed to prison under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure decreased, while those sentenced to rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement were almost twice as many as in 1901. Only one escape occurred during the year. The fugitive was subsequently recaptured. At the close of the year there were still at large ten prisoners who had escaped in previous years. The offences dealt with by Superintendents and by Criminal Courts during the year under review were more numerous, and the percentages of corporal to total punishments and of major punishments to average population were also higher than in 1901. The average cost per prisoner again increased, the increase being chiefly due to a greater cost of establishment. The cash earnings of convicts sentenced to rigorous imprisonment exceeded that of the previous year. As usual gardening operations were generally satisfactory. Overcrowding, which occasionally occurred in a few of the jails, was promptly relieved by transfers. During 1902 all the jails in the province were immune from cholera, a very satisfactory feature of the year. Although strenuous efforts were made to carry out the special orders of the Government of India in respect of the deportation of convicts to Port Blair it was found impossible to send away the required number before the close of the year.

Civil Justice.

23. In the Civil Courts there was a noteworthy increase in the volume of original litigation and execution proceedings, and a corresponding increase in the duration of cases. The schemes for reorganizing the administration of Civil Justice in Lower Burma by the constitution of superior and subordinate Judicial services have advanced considerably towards realization. The number of suits instituted rose in both sections of the province. In Lower Burma the increase was due to the institution of a larger number of suits for money and moveable property. In Upper Burma it is attributed to the progress of the province. Applications for execution of decrees were also in excess of the figures for the previous year. In Lower Burma a smaller percentage of wholly infructuous cases and an increase in the amount realized as compared with the previous year were noticeable. The number of regular appeals in the province rose very slightly. The percentage of confirmation in Lower Burma was about the same as in 1901 but rose slightly in Upper Burma. The number of inspections by Judges of the Chief Court and Divisional Judges in Lower Burma increased. This was also the case as regards inspections by the Judicial Commissioner and Divisional Judges in Upper Burma. Improvements in Court accommodation were made or estimated for in the Pegu and Henzada districts, and were reported to be specially required at four other places. Proposals for extending the accommodation of the existing Chief Court buildings in Rangoon were submitted, in view of the delay which is likely to occur in providing a suitable building. Courthouses in Upper Burma were generally reported to be in good order.

Registration.

24. The law regarding the registration of deeds remained unchanged throughout the year, but some alterations were made in the rules, the most important being the amendment of Rule 4 (*a*) of the rules under the Upper Burma Registration Regulation so as to make the attachment of maps to documents optional where an explicit reference to an official survey is contained in the document itself. In

Lower Burma the number of documents registered increased by over 15 per cent., receipts from fees being more than 23 per cent. in excess of the previous year's figures. In Upper Burma the number of documents registered and the gross receipts from fees for all operations increased by more than 9 per cent. Gross and net receipts for the province amounted to Rs. 1,30,304 and Rs. 85,503 respectively.

Municipal Administration.

25. In the Rangoon Municipality the rate of the General Municipal tax was reduced from 9 to 8 per cent. from the beginning of the year, but in spite of that reduction the total income from taxation increased by Rs. 45,000, and the Committee have accordingly decided to maintain the reduced rate for another year. Two large loans were negotiated on more favourable terms than had hitherto been obtainable. One was for the Hlawga water-supply scheme, which it is hoped should be completed by the 31st March 1905. Tenders for the introduction of electricity have been received and are under consideration. The Government of India have agreed that receipts from Rangoon town lands shall be devoted to the reclamation of waste lands in Rangoon for a period of fifty years. A further proposal that details of the scheme of works, with special reference to the question of providing adequately for the housing of the poor, should be furnished to Government, and that the Committee should contribute towards the scheme one-half of the receipts from Municipal taxation of the reclaimed area has been considered by the Committee, and their views have been submitted to the Government of India. The number of mofussil Municipalities diminished by one. The incidence of taxation was heaviest at Moulmein, Prome and Bassein, and lightest in Taungdwingyi and Bhamo. Fresh imposts were levied at Henzada, Myaungmya, Toungoo and Pegu during the year, and the water-tax at Minbu was temporarily enhanced. There was an increase of nearly two lakhs of rupees in the aggregate income of mofussil Municipalities exclusive of debt accounts, and of nearly six lakhs in ordinary expenditure. Municipal rates and taxes increased by over half a lakh, and the revenue derived from Municipal property apart from taxation also increased considerably. A grant of half a lakh of rupees was made by Government to the Prome Municipality for various urgent sanitary improvements, and a contribution of Rs. 4,500 to the Shwebo Committee to aid them in the construction of a new hospital. Expenditure on account of water-supply increased very considerably, chiefly on account of the Moulmein water-works which are now approaching completion. At Prome important improvements to the existing water-works cost the Municipality slightly less than a lakh of rupees. Expenditure on drainage and conservancy also increased. The balance of Government loans outstanding at the end of the year was considerably in excess of that at the close of the previous year. Insein, Nyaunglebin, Wakèma and Maymyo were added to the list of notified areas. The Pagan Municipality was converted into the Nyaungu Town Committee, and the Committees at Zigôn and Kawkareik were formally reconstituted under the Act.

Military.

26. The total strength of the troops in Burma at the beginning of the year was 10,311, of whom 3,158 were Europeans and 7,153 were Natives; the number at the close of the year being 13,679, of whom 4,789 were Europeans and 8,890 were Natives.

27. There was no change in the constitution of the Volunteer forces during the year under review. The aggregate enrolled strength of the combined force on the 31st March 1903 was 2,602 active and 135 reservists. Of the active Volunteers 2,304 were adults, and 298 cadets. Capitation tax earned was Rs. 89,888. **Volunteering.**

28. No British Man-of-war visited the province during the year. The R.I.M.S. *Dalhousie* visited the light-houses regularly throughout the year. The R.I.M.S. *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen*, and *Bhamo* were employed in the carriage of stores and specie on the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers. The total number of vessels and flats employed in Burma was 81. The *McIvor* and *Ôktaung* both struck snags in the river and sank, but were successfully raised. The total outlay on the whole flotilla was Rs. 5,37,127, and receipts from earnings Rs. 3,46,753. **Marine.**

29. The area under cultivation from which a crop was obtained showed a slight decrease as compared with the previous year, while the area occupied but left fallow increased. This was largely due to heavy floods in Lower Burma, and an unfavourable rainfall. In Upper Burma the earlier rains were favourable, and a larger area than usual was brought under cultivation. There was, however, a general deficiency of the latter rains, resulting in a proportionate failure of the crops sown. The scanty nature of the rainfall resulted in a decrease in the area under irrigation. Most districts in Burma were comparatively free from cattle-disease during the year, and the statistics indicate an increase in the number of cattle available for agricultural purposes. The outturn of rice was below normal, and high prices prevailed in all the paddy producing districts of Lower Burma. Large quantities of rice were exported to China, Japan and the Straits, where there was a partial failure of crops. **Agriculture.**

30. The province was comparatively free of cattle-disease throughout the year. A large amount of attention was again given to the inoculation of cattle against rinderpest. Three Government stallions were maintained with a view to the improvement of pony-breeding. The breeding of good cattle was encouraged by cattle shows. **Veterinary.**

31. The character of the monsoon was somewhat unsatisfactory, and the rainfall was untimely and unevenly distributed. Early rains were promising, but the latter rains to a great extent failed. Generally speaking, the crops promised well, but were damaged by drought towards the end of the season. **Weather and crops.**

32. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma continued to prosper, and more plants and seeds were distributed by it than in previous years. Experimental horticulture was carried on in Government gardens in several districts with varying success. The distribution of seed to suitable localities was continued by Government as usual. The most promising result has been in the Thôngwa district, where tobacco from Havana seed is successfully grown. American cotton-seed was experimented with in three districts, but with no great success. **Horticulture.**

33. An area of more than 1,000 square miles of forest was reserved, and a considerable area remained under settlement at the close of the year. In all four circles progress was made in the survey of reserved forests. Six working-plans parties were employed during the year in the Pegu, Tenasserim and Southern Circles in accordance with a recently framed programme for this work.. Fire protection was carried out over a larger area than in the previous year, but with **Forests.**

somewhat less success owing to the dryness of the season. The plantation of rubber, teak, pine, and cutch was continued over somewhat greater areas than in 1901-02. The season was generally unfavourable for floating, and the outturn of timber and other forest-produce exported by water was abnormally low, as in the previous year. With small supplies there was a considerable increase in the market rates for teak timber. Receipts and charges both increased, the net surplus revenue showing an increase of over six lakhs of rupees. Exports of teak were somewhat less than in the previous year.

Mines and quarries.

34. The out-put of oil in the Yenangyaung and Yenangyat oil-fields continued to increase, the revenue from this source exceeding eight lakhs of rupees. Experimental borings for oil were made in neighbouring districts, but without success. The operations of the Ruby Mines Company were marred by heavy rains which flooded the mines. The Kyaukpazat Gold Mining Company continued their mining operations during the year, but have since come to the end of the reef which they were working. Dredging for gold in the bed of the Irrawaddy above Bhamo was carried on throughout the dry season, and has been sufficiently successful to induce the licensees to contemplate a large extension of their operations. The outturn of coal from the Letkôkbin collieries in the Shwebo district increased slightly. The coal is in little demand and finds a very limited market. Tourmaline, steatite, and tin are other metals which were worked to some extent.

Manufactures.

35. Cotton-weaving, and the spinning and weaving of silk, give employment to a large number of women and girls in Burma. Competent workers in gold, silver, and precious stones, are in increasing demand. Brass-work, pottery, brick-making, mat-weaving, the manufacture of cheroots and *ngapi*, the extraction of sessamum oil, and the manufacture of salt, cutch, and lacquer are other native industries of some importance. The number of factories, and of factory operatives is increasing. The usual inspections of factories were made during the year, and the arrangements were generally found to be satisfactory. There were no epidemics, and the general health of the workers was reported to be good. The number of women and children employed in factories is still insignificant. The Indian Factories Act, 1881, extends as yet to Lower Burma only.

Commercial Marine.

36. The number of vessels and the aggregate tonnage engaged in the sea-borne trade of the province both increased. Steamer tonnage was 97 per cent. of the whole. Of 1,120 vessels which entered from and cleared to foreign countries 211 were foreign, principally Austrian, German, and Norwegian. The carrying capacity of the steamers engaged in the Rangoon trade tends to increase. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust was about half a lakh in advance of that of the previous year. Plans and estimates for sections of the new works in the Port of Rangoon involving an expenditure of nearly 40 lakhs out of the total estimate of 92 lakhs for the improvement of the Port have been lately sanctioned by the Government of India. The cost of precautionary measures against plague amounted to Rs. 1,13,907, two-thirds of which was contributed by Government.

Sea-borne Trade.

37. The total value of the maritime trade of the province showed a considerable increase over that of the previous year, and while it did not equal the abnormally high figures of 1900-01, the normal growth in the sea-borne trade of the province was fully maintained. Imports and exports represented 33·36 and 66·64 per cent. respectively of the aggregate value of the foreign trade of Rangoon.

Exports of rice formed 83·25 per cent. of the total exports, and amounted to Rs. 9,65,80,809.

38. Trade with Western China through the Bhamo and Myitkyina districts decreased by 33·15 per cent. according to the returns but it is supposed that the figures for 1901-02 were fallaciously high. Imports from the Northern Shan States increased, the facilities of transport afforded by the Railway causing a large increase in the amount of tea imported into Burma from those States. The trade between the Southern Shan States and Burma was less than in the previous year, the want of cheap means of transport being the principal reason why this trade is not more considerable. **Inland trade.**

39. The total Public Works expenditure for the year was Rs. 1,21,48,200, excluding establishment, tools and plant, Barrack Department, and Suspense. This was distributed as follows :— **Public Works.**

Nature of work.	Original Works.	Repairs.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial Military Works	3,76,771	2,59,149
Imperial Major Irrigation Works	14,02,425	24,755
Provincial Minor Works and Navigation	6,41,915	5,42,980
Provincial Civil Buildings	23,90,294	4,97,433
Provincial Communications	19,82,010	18,40,954
Provincial Miscellaneous Public Improvements	4,33,689	54,299
Incorporated Local Minor Works and Navigation	1,898	2,925
Incorporated Local Civil Buildings	21,448	4,439
Incorporated Local Communications	1,03,137	2,26,027
Incorporated Local Miscellaneous Public Improvements	94,334	58,849
Contributions	11,81,217	7,252
Total ...	86,29,138	35,19,062

The total cost of establishment, excluding the Barrack Department, was Rs. 19,74,980 or 16·26 per cent. on the total expenditure as against 17·75 per cent. in the previous year and 15·60 per cent. in the year before that.

40. Three half-company barracks were built at Maymyo for the British troops which are to be located there to test the suitability of the climate. The site for a cantonment for British troops at this station was cleared, drained, and otherwise completed; also the mains for a pipe water-supply were laid. The defences of Fort Dufferin were completed. At Rangoon quarters for two subalterns, a Mess-house for British Infantry Officers, a Station Family Hospital and a pipe water-supply for the Arsenal were completed and three barracks for the Royal Garrison Artillery were under construction. **Military Works.**

41. *Forest.*—Permanent quarters and an office for the Deputy Conservator of Forests at Maymyo and a Forest Office at Myitkyina were completed; a Forest Office was begun at Shwegyin. At Ahlone (Rangoon) a tannin factory was constructed at the Forest Depôt. **Civil Buildings.**

Customs.—Improvements to the bonded warehouse attached to the Customs Buildings at Rangoon were commenced.

Post offices.—A combined post and telegraph office was opened at Taikkyi and post offices at Maymyo and Kampetlet.

Telegraph.—The telegraph office at Myitkyina was completed.

Administration.—Quarters for the Assistant Superintendent, Pakôkku Chin Hills, were completed at Kampetlet and quarters for the Superintendents of Land Records at Henzada and Meiktila. A court-house and office for the Commissioner at Akyab was completed. Three record-rooms were completed and a fourth begun. Treasure-vaults were completed at 9 stations and opium shops at 41 stations.

Minor Departments.—At Mandalay the *Hlutdaw* throne in the palace was dismantled and transhipped to the Calcutta museum. The restoration of *pyatthats,* Fort Dufferin, was in hand and considerable progress was made in carrying out improvements to the Mandalay Palace and its surroundings. Repairs were undertaken of certain buildings of archæological interest at Pagan.

Educational.—Additions and alterations to the school for sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi were completed. Mansfield's oil gas apparatus was supplied for the laboratories, &c., in the Rangoon College. The buildings comprising the Government Engineering School at Insein were improved.

Ecclesiastical.—Work on the Protestant Church at Mandalay was not resumed during the year. As, if the number of troops is reduced, it may not be required. A new cemetery was under construction at Magwe.

Law and Justice.—New permanent quarters for the Deputy Commissioner at Mônywa were put in hand and a residence was provided for the Deputy Commissioner at Akyab. Court-house accommodation was completed at Sadôn and Kamaing and was in progress at Maymyo, Allanmyo, Sagaing and Katha. Additions, alterations, and improvements were carried out to 6 district court-houses.

Jails.—Additions and alterations were made to the Myingyan, Toungoo, Pagan, Shwegyin, Insein, Rangoon and Myaungmya jails. A jail for 100 prisoners was begun at Mogôk; the new jail at Mergui was practically completed; and the site for the new jail at Moulmein was cleared.

Police.—Quarters were completed for the District Superintendent of Police and for the Battalion Commandant at Shwebo; begun for the District Superintendent of Police at Mônywa; and completed for the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Paletwa and for the Assistant Battalion Commandant at Pakôkku. Quarters for Inspectors, European and Burman, and for European Head Constables, were provided at 6 stations. Quarters and barracks for Civil Police and barracks for Military Police were completed or improved or were in progress at 6 and 22 stations, respectively. A barrack for Chin Police was completed at Kampetlet. Ten Military Police posts and out-posts were completed and 2 were in course of construction; of Civil Police thanas, 16 were completed and 2 were in hand.

Medical.—Quarters were completed for the Civil Surgeon at Sagaing and for the nurses of the Dufferin Hospital at Rangoon. Five civil hospitals and a dispensary were completed and 6 hospitals were in hand. At Meiktila a Vaccine depôt was begun and at Kemmendine (Rangoon) a ward for 20 lepers was in progress.

Miscellaneous.—Quarters were completed for the Executive Engineer at Akyab and were in progress for the Executive Engineer at Toungoo. Electric fans and lights were fitted in the New Public offices at Rangoon, and the foundations of the wings of the building were commenced. The circuit-house at Mandalay was completed and those at Maymyo, Bhamo and Katha were in hand.

42. The total length of metalled and unmetalled roads in the province at the end of the year was 1,678 and 7,903 miles, respectively. In addition to metalling, widening and improving roads generally, renewal of bridges and provision of inspection bungalows where necessary, the following works were undertaken during the year. Communications.

(a) Metal Roads.—Pegu district.—The Pegu-Tandawgyi road was begun and the cart road from Nyaunglèbin to Pyuntaza was completed and opened to traffic. Bridging and metalling on two other roads in the district, the re-construction of the bridge over the Hlègu river, and the construction of 5 inspection bungalows were in progress.

Toungoo district.—A cart road from Kywèbwè railway station to the Sittang river was completed and work was started on the 1st section of the road from Tantabin to Bônmadi. The construction of the cart road from Pathichaung to Thandaung was well in hand. The 1st section of the Toungoo-Thandaung road, *i.e.*, as far as Pathichaung, was metalled and improved.

Amherst district.—The construction of the 2nd section of the Moulmein-Kyaikmaraw road made good progress.

Northern and Southern Shan States.—About 1½ miles of the Mandalay-Lashio road were raised in class. The Thazi-Taunggyi road progressed favourably; good progress was also made on the Wampôn-Takaw cart road.

Mandalay district.—An inspection bungalow was begun at Wapyudaung on the Ruby Mines road.

Bhamo district.—On the first 17¾ miles of the 1st section, Chinese Frontier road, metal was laid down.

Myitkyina district.—The town roads in Myitkyina were completed; and the metalling of some of the town roads in Mogaung was nearly completed.

Meiktila district.—The Yegyo-Mahlaing feeder road was completed; and the Ela-Lewè road was under construction.

Shwebo district.—The road connecting the Civil and Military Police lines, rifle-ranges and Sudder bazaar was completed.

Lower Chindwin district.—The Yinmabin-Mônywa and Mônywa-Kyaukka roads were completed.

Sandoway district.—Roads from Taungup to Wetchet and from Sainchon to Pyade were completed.

(b) Unmetalled roads, Pegu district.—The Kawa-Ohnè road was practically completed.

Toungoo district.—The construction of a circular road at Thandaung, to give access to the various house sites, progressed. The survey for a cart road from Pathichaung to Thandaung was completed and surveys for similar roads from Karenchaung to Nancho and Shwegyin to Kyonkyi were practically completed.

Amherst district.—The 2nd and 3rd sections of the cart road from Kawkareik to Myawaddy were in progress; the Longlôn-Zalut road was practically completed; and the bridle path from Wagaru to Yè was in progress.

Thatôn district.—The first 9 miles of the 1st section of the Pa-an-Hlaingbwè road were completed and the 2nd section was taken in hand. The construction of the Pa-an-Duyinzeik road was commenced.

Thayetmyo district.—Work on the Salin-Sedôktaya road made good progress.

Northern and Southern Shan States.—The suspension bridge over the Namtu river, on the Lashio-Kutkai road, was completed. The cart road from Taunggyi to Napôk was well in hand.

Mandalay district.—An alignment for a cart road from Mogôk to the Hsipaw border was completed.

Bhamo district.—The last 12 miles of the 1st section, Chinese Frontier road, were completed; the whole of the 2nd section, 21 miles, was opened to mule traffic.

Myitkyina district.—A graded mule-track from Kazu to Sima was practically completed.

Meiktila district.—The road from Thazi towards Nyaungyan neared completion.

Shwebo district.—A road from Namkan railway station to Padingôn was completed; the Mohnyin-Bulumyo road was begun; the Myindaw-Yatha road was completed.

Lower Chindwin district.—Improvements to the Palè-Yinmabin road were completed.

Pakôkku Chin Hills.—A mule-track from Mindat-Sakan to Kampetlet was well advanced. Stables for mules and barracks for muleteers were completed at halting stages on the Falam-Indin and Haka-Kalemyo roads and on the branch road to Tiddim.

Sandoway district.—A road from Sandoway to Kyeintali, 40 miles in length, was commenced.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

43. *Markets.*—Good progress was made on the construction of a bazaar at Thanatpin. Improvements to the Hlègu bazaar were commenced. A new bazaar was constructed at Kanyutkwin; also a fish bazaar at Daungyi and a dry fish bazaar at Kyauktaw.

Water-supply.—The improvements to the water-supply of Thandaung were completed; also the water-supply to the town and station of Maymyo. Good progress was made in the Hlawga water-supply scheme which will provide a suitable and sufficient supply for the town of Rangoon.

Light-houses.—A new light-house on Green Island was nearly completed. Preliminary local works required in connection with the proposed Beacon Island light-house were practically completed.

Irrigation.

44. *Mandalay Canal.*—The main canal was completed in the previous year, as designed. The principal construction work during the year under review comprised the completion of the distributaries and the water-course systems from them. Water was admitted into the canal and irrigation allowed from four distributaries which were ready in time for the irrigating season. Thirteen distributaries, with a total length of 90 miles, were constructed. The water-course systems from these distributaries were in hand for a total length of 202 miles, of which 120 miles were completed.

Shwebo Canal.—Work was pushed on in the construction of the main canal and two branches. The main canal was practically completed by the end of the year. The surveys for the alignments of all the distributaries from the main canal were in hand. The excavation of the Main Canal was completed throughout, with the exception of a few short gaps at masonry works and for irrigation channels.

Pegu and Sittang Canal.—Materials were collected and some excavation executed on the construction of a lock at Minywa. Laterite pitching for the Myitkyo lock chamber was completed; and the construction of a spur on the upper side of the Myitkyo lock was in progress.

Pegu Branch Canal.—The deepening of this branch canal proceeded and 4 miles were completed.

Kyaukse, Meiktila and Minbu districts.—The remodelling of the various canal systems and improvements to tanks were continued.

River Conservancy.—In the Chindwin river, operations were carried out by the Public Works Department, from April to June 1902, over the whole length from Pakôkku to Homalin. From October 1902 to March 1903 the conservancy work was carried on by the Marine Department. In the Myittha river work, was carried out by the Public Works Department along the dry weather channel of the river between Indin and Natkyigôn; the conservancy operations of the portion from Pyinthazeik to Kyaukpyu were carried out by the civil authorities with labour obtained from famine-stricken villages.

Famine Test Work Surveys.—Field work was continued through the working season in prosecuting enquiries and surveys for projects of minor tank and hill torrent works which will serve as test works in a season of scarcity in the Meiktila, Yamèthin and Myingyan districts. Three tank projects were completed.

Railways.

45. The length of line open to traffic on the 31st March 1903 was 1,342·95 as compared with 1,177·7 miles open at the end of the previous year. Three new portions of line, from Hsipaw to Lashio, the line from Henzada to Bassein, and that from Letpadan to Henzada, were opened during the year. With the opening of those branches all work under construction was completed, and no new construction has as yet been sanctioned. The gross earnings of the year showed an increase of Rs. 4,78,453 over the earnings of the previous year. The net earnings increased by Rs. 30,133. The percentage of net receipts to capital outlay on open line decreased from 4·36 to 3·84.

Gross Revenue.

46. The gross receipts under the various revenue heads as shown in the statement in Part V of the Report were more than 47 lakhs in excess of those of the previous year. The largest increase was under the head of Customs, receipts from which rose by more than 35 lakhs over last year's figures. Receipts from Land Revenue, Stamps, and Forests all increased by more than one, three, and eight lakhs respectively. Excise receipts showed a decrease of Rs. 1,22,044.

Land Revenue.

47. The area assessed to land revenue in Lower Burma was larger than ever before, and the revenue demand for the province exceeded that of the fifteen months dealt with in last year's report by Rs. 1,37,565. The increased demand was due to extensions of cultivation as well as to enhanced rates consequent on revision settlements. Remissions were heavy throughout the province owing to the early cessation of the monsoon, and the consequent failure of much paddy to come to maturity. The promise of the crops which had escaped destruction by the over abundance of the early showers was thereby largely spoiled. The small amount of water-rate separately assessed in Upper Burma was almost the same as in the previous year. Capitation tax increased by more than one lakh. The *thathameda* demand in Upper Burma also increased, but large remissions were rendered necessary owing to the failure of the latter rains, and the destruction of a promising harvest.

Fishery revenue rose to a higher figure than ever before, leased fisheries in the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions bringing in 3 lakhs more than in the previous year.

Customs. 48. The revenue realized from customs duties at the port of Rangoon increased by 28·65 per cent. and reached a total higher than in any previous year. The export duty on rice rose by nearly 50 per cent. At ports other than Rangoon the amount of customs duty collected was nearly 10 lakhs in excess of the previous year's figures, representing an increase of nearly 56 per cent.

Salt. 49. In the Hanthawaddy and Bassein districts a new system was introduced of free licenses to manufacture salt, duty being levied on the actual output at the time of sale. The experiment was partially successful, and is being continued there and extended to the Myaungmya district. Elsewhere duty was levied as before in the shape of a composition duty on the vessels employed, no record of outturn being maintained. There was a slight increase in the manufacture of salt in those districts of Upper Burma where it still affords a livelihood when cultivation fails. Duty on foreign salt imported was two lakhs higher than in any year since 1895. More than half the total came from Germany, and lesser quantities from Liverpool, Aden, and Madras.

Excise and opium. 50. The revenue derived from license fees and duties on liquors of all kinds decreased by about one lakh. This was largely due to the diminished issues of spirits distilled in Burma after European methods, the demand for which has shown a rapid and continuous decline during the past three years. In order, if possible, to kill the illicit traffic in opium and to render effective the policy of prohibiting the possession and consumption of opium by Burmans, a change of measures involving an increase in the number of licensed shops, direct supervision over the sales from those shops, and a reorganization of the excise staff, was introduced into Lower Burma; and similar measures have been sanctioned for Upper Burma, and will be introduced from the 1st April 1904. Financially the net result of the change in the system was a small decrease in the amount of revenue receipts. The conclusions at which, after so short a period of observation, it has been possible to arrive are that some check has been given to the contraband trade owing to the displacement of illicit opium by Government opium sold to authorized consumers from the licensed shops, but that the measures have not been altogether successful in restricting consumption, and in keeping opium out of the hands of non-registered Burmans. The number of offences against the excise and opium laws reported during the year increased largely, owing to a reorganized and more effective preventive staff. There was gratifying evidence that village headmen are taking an increasing interest in their duties with respect to these offences.

Stamps. 51. The increase in the amount of gross receipts from stamps was double the normal rate of increase of the past few years. The net revenue for the year exceeded 25½ lakhs or 3½ lakhs better than the previous record. The satisfactory expansion of the stamp revenue may be taken to be due as well to improved administration as to natural growth with the growing population and trade of the province.

Assessed taxes. 52. With the exception of four villages to which the Act was extended, there was no change in the areas within which income-tax was collected. Total net collections exceeded those of the previous year by the small sum of Rs. 1,300 only, though the amount realized from Government servants alone increased by

Rs. 11,576. It would appear that the town of Rangoon suffered a distinct check in the steady rate of progress which it had hitherto maintained, the tax on profits of companies in Rangoon alone being Rs. 28,484 below the amount collected in the previous year.

53. Forest revenue increased by more than eight lakhs. The increase would have been larger but for a bad floating season. **Forests.**

54. The larger number of documents presented for registration during the year, caused an increase in the amount of fees realized. **Registration fees.**

55. Proposals for the improvement of the system of dealing with vital statistics are under consideration. There was a falling off in the number of births and deaths in Lower Burma which is not clearly explained. The number of deaths from cholera and small-pox was much below the average. A large number of deaths were due to fevers, chiefly malaria. The scheme for the sale of quinine is being steadily extended, and information regarding the connection between mosquitos and malaria, and the best method of dealing with the former in feverish localities, has been widely disseminated. There were no indigenous cases of plague during the year. Three cases of suspected plague were detected at the medical inspection of passengers arriving from India, of which one only proved fatal. The Hlawga water-supply scheme is still in course of construction. Tube-wells were sunk in Ahlone quarter to supplement the supply in Rangoon, and the Municipality were able to discontinue the use of the Royal Lake water. Little progress was made with the water-supply for Mandalay, and the Moulmein project is not yet complete though the work is reported to be well advanced. The water-supply scheme for Akyab was deferred till the question of drainage was settled. Schemes for the water-supply of Prome and Yamèthin have been undertaken. Tube-wells have been sunk in Rangoon Cantonments and at Thônzè, while one has been sanctioned for the Shwebo Cantonments. Forty-nine per cent. of Municipal income, or 14 per cent. more than in the previous year, was spent on sanitary works. The amount spent in rural areas remained practically the same. Three meetings of the Sanitary Board were held during the year, one at Akyab and two at Rangoon, at which projects and estimates for sanitary works were considered. There were 129 hospitals and dispensaries at work on the last day of 1902. Seven were opened and one closed during the year. Of the increase of 28,187 persons treated in all hospitals and dispensaries over the previous year's figures the new hospitals claimed 18,461. More surgical operations were performed than in any previous year. The employment of Dufferin Hospital Nurses is finding favour with Municipal bodies. The General Hospital, Rangoon, was taken over by Government on the 1st December 1902. Proposals for special recruitment of Hospital Assistants, and the question of establishing a local medical school are under consideration. The number of vaccinators rose from 194 to 213, and the number of vaccinations performed showed an increase of 17,534 over last year's figures. The increase was mainly in Upper Burma. There was a decline in Lower Burma which was most marked in Prome, Henzada, Kyaukpyu, Hanthawaddy and Tavoy. The closer supervision of the work of vaccinators and the punishments inflicted for false returns as well as the unrestricted practice of inoculation probably all contributed to that result. Not only have primary vaccinations increased but also the quality **Sanitary and Medical Administration.**

of the work has been better. There was a slight falling off in re-vaccinations. A larger number of dispensary vaccinations was performed, the percentage of successful primary vaccinations being similar to that in the previous year but lower than that for the whole province.

Education.

56. The total number of institutions and of pupils increased during the year, the increase being shared both by public and by private institutions. More schools have come up to the standard of registration, and the province has been better explored by the inspecting agency. The statistics on the whole indicate progress, and the figures relating to Primary Education are more satisfactory than for some years past. The results of the University examinations were satisfactory, in that the number of B.A. degrees obtained, eleven, was the highest on record. The number of Entrance passes showed improvement also, but, on the other hand, there was a serious falling off in the results of the First-in-Arts examination. Apart from the inclusion for the first time of considerable items under the head 'Miscellaneous' on account of expenditure on Hostels and Boarding-houses, there was a noticeable increase in the allotments for Secondary and Primary Education and for buildings. The enhanced burden seems to have fallen chiefly on Municipal and Private Funds. Expenditure amounting to Rs 1,28,000, was incurred during the year against the special allotment for the purpose of carrying out the recommendations of the Simla Conference of 1901, and although certain points are still under discussion, considerable progress has been made in giving effect to the changes advocated. Owing to further difficulties having arisen, the transfer of the Rangoon College to Government has not yet been carried into effect. Considerable attention was given during the year to the management of the Insein Reformatory School, and steps have been taken to give full effect to the orders requiring that a more educational character should be given to such institutions.

Arts and sciences.

57. Burmese Art was represented at the Indian Exhibition at Delhi in January 1903 by Burmese artisans from Rangoon, Moulmein, and Pagan, who worked in silver, wood-carving, and lacquer. Seventeen prizes were won by exhibitors from Burma. In the province itself, the annual art exhibition was held in Rangoon in November 1902. The quality of the exhibits, more especially the silver-work, was considered to show an improvement over that of the previous year.

Archæology.

58. As in the previous year, the Archæologist devoted a large share of his time to the decipherment of the ancient inscriptions found in different parts of the province. Progress was made towards restoring the buildings and decorations of the Palace at Mandalay to their original condition. At Pagan four pagodas and two temples are under process of repair at the expense of Government.

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1902-03.

(*Note.*—In the Burma Administration Report for 1901-02 the following subjects have been treated in permanent form for reference :—

	Pages.
Physical features of the country, area, climate and chief staples ...	1—6
Historical Summary	6—10
Form of Administration	10—13
Character of land tenures, system of survey and settlement ...	13—19
Civil divisions of British territory	20—22
Details of last census, tribes and languages	22—26
Legislating authority	33—34
General system of public instruction	92—98
Literary societies	101
Ecclesiastical jurisdiction	104

In accordance with the orders of the Government of India these chapters are not reproduced in this report.)

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES.

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for 1902-03.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for 1902-03.
Report on the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for 1902-03.

Changes in the Administration.

Administration.

THE HON'BLE SIR FREDERIC FRYER, K.C.S.I., held charge of the administration throughout the period under report.

Number of divisions and districts.

2. The number of divisions and districts remained the same as last year. The headquarters of the Myotha township of the Sagaing district was transferred to Ngazun. The boundary between the Mandalay and Sagaing districts was revised, certain islands in the river Irrawaddy being included in the Patheingyi and Madaya townships of the Mandalay district. The Kale subdivision of the Upper Chindwin district was reconstituted and divided into three townships, namely, Balet, Kalewa and Kale, with headquarters at Masein, Kalewa and Kalemyo respectively. The headquarters of the Rathedaung subdivision, Akyab district, was transferred from Rathedaung to Buthidaung. Certain areas in the Insein township, Insein subdivision, and the Twante township, Twante subdivision, were excluded from the Hanthawaddy district and included within the boundaries of Rangoon Town. The Inyè B circle of the Kyaunggôn township of the Bassein district was transferred to the Kyônpyaw township of the same district.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY. Southern Shan States.

3. The Southern Shan States again enjoyed a year of prosperity, the tranquillity of which was hardly disturbed by a futile attempt at a rising that was led by a person known as the Yezin *pôngyi*. The Myoza of Hsatūng acted with praiseworthy energy and broke up the gang before they were able to do any harm. One of the most important events of the year was the opening of the new school at Taunggyi for the sons of Shan Chiefs. This has met with great success, and the school is already largely attended. There were serious disturbances in Northern Siam in the Autumn of 1902 which adversely affected the trade with Kēngtūng, and also prompted the elephant thieves along the Salween territories to especial activity, but the insurgents were prevented from entering the Shan States. Relations with Kēnghung were satisfactory; the return of Sao Nang Wen Tip to her husband, the Hsenwihpa, or *Sawbwa*, of Kēnghung, is likely to promote trade between his State and Kēngtūng. There was some friction between Möng Hang and the neighbouring Siamese district which has not yet been wholly allayed. Relations with the French officials across the frontier have continued to be friendly. Six Chiefs from the Southern Shan States attended the Coronation Darbar at Delhi. The necessity for the appointment of an Adviser to the Yawnghwe *Sawbwa* has been established, and the Government of India have been addressed on the subject. *Odium theologicum* was responsible for some disorder in Karenni, where the converts of rival denominations displayed their religious fervour in sectarian fights. The important question of the garrisoning of the Southern Shan States remains undecided.

Administration of Justice.

4. There was no serious outbreak of crime during the year though there was an increase in the number of crimes of violence over those of the previous year. Cattle-thefts decreased in number, and the Chiefs made judicious use of their powers in punishing violent crimes and in fining villages for collusion with criminals. The working of the civil police was again satisfactory. Eighty-four cases were instituted under the *Shan States Civil Justice Order*, which came into operation during the previous year.

Revenue and general.

5. The season was unfavourable for cultivators, the rainfall in most parts being inadequate. There seems to be some ground for the view that the recently sanctioned increase in the amount of tribute paid by the States was hardly justified by the condition of the people and the prospects of trade. The postponement of the railway project has removed a source of profit upon which were based expectations of a general increase of prosperity. The question is under further consideration. Considerable energy was displayed by the Chiefs in the improvement of communications, and more than Rs. 40,000 of tribute were remitted on this account. The general health of the people was good, and throughout the States there was no serious outbreak of disease among the cattle. It is unsatisfactory to note that there is a continued decrease in the volume of trade, both import and export, with Burma. It is probable that cheaper transport will prove the most effective remedy for this condition of trade, and the project of railway communication with Taunggyi will not be lost sight of.

Northern Shan States.

6. The most important event of the year was the death, in May 1902, of the Hsipaw *Sawbwa*, Hkun Saing, C.I.E. The deceased *Sawbwa* was conspicuous for his administrative ability and his loyalty to the British Government. His eldest son, Saw Hkè, who administered the State for some time before his father's death, has been recognized as *Sawbwa*, but the administration of the finances, which had fallen into confusion through Saw Hkè's extravagance, has been transferred temporarily from his hands to the hands of the Adviser. Saw Hkè has shown great interest in the administration of Hsipaw, where there are signs of progress. If the young Chief controls his inclination to extravagance he may still prove a worthy successor to his father. The North Hsenwi *Sawbwa* continued to show himself averse from all measures of administrative reform; a part of his State was consequently brought, for purposes of revenue administration, under the direct control of the Superintendent. The *Sawbwa* was also fined for his failure to arrest a notorious outlaw, but it is to his credit that he succeeded later in the year in breaking up a dangerous gang of dacoits. Long-standing differences between the

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Menglün *Sawbwa* and his subordinate, the Mothai Myoza, were satisfactorily settled. Our relations with the Chinese States of Chefang and Möng Paw were very satisfactory, but the disturbed condition of Möngmao is a menace to the peace of the frontier. In Tawngpeng the *Sawbwa* endeavoured to liquidate his debts by selling gambling licenses. He requires closer supervision, which it is proposed to afford. In Manglün, the administration of which is backward, the *Sawbwa* was induced by the Superintendent to undertake several useful measures of administrative reform.

General.

7. There was no diminution in the amount of crime during the year. The Chiefs showed but little energy in investigating crime and in some cases connived at its concealment. The year was an unfavourable one for the crops: garden cultivation, however, increased and more tea was grown than in the previous year. Trade was brisk throughout the country, the value of exports by rail showing an increase of nearly six lakhs, while the road-borne traffic also increased. Good progress was made in the improvement of communications throughout the States. The health of the people was exceptionally good; and the number of vaccinations increased largely. The working of the police force was satisfactory. Proposals are under consideration for putting all the military police posts into a defensible state. A number of suits were heard under the *Shan States Civil Justice Order*, the great majority being instituted at Lashio.

States under the control of Commissioners.

8. Möng Mit State was again satisfactorily administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines district. The young *Sawbwa* is now nearly of age and it is probable that the administration of the State will shortly be entrusted to him. His conduct was excellent throughout the year. The rainfall was good and the State was generally prosperous. The administration of the States of Hsawnghsup and Hkâmti calls for no comment.

The Chin Hills.

9. The Chin Hills proper enjoyed another year of prosperity and progress. There are many indications of the spread of civilization and of the adoption of more enlightened ideas. Among these may specially be noticed the growing enterprise of the tribesmen in visiting the plains, their increased readiness to undertake work for Government, the attendance of their children at school, and the self-control with which they refrain from prosecuting those intertribal feuds which still exist. An example of this greater self-control was exhibited by the Siyin Chief, Manlon, who displayed great tact and self-restraint when threatened with an attack by the neighbouring Sokte Chief. The work of disarmament made slow progress during the year, but it is thought that the number of unstamped guns in the possession of the tribesmen is becoming small. A satisfactory feature of the year's record is the ease with which the enhanced tribute was collected in full. The experimental cultivation of oats and wheat was sufficiently successful to warrant its continuance on a larger scale. A distribution of potato-seed has resulted in the establishment of a regular trade in potatoes between the hills and the plains which should be fostered by all possible means. It is hoped also to induce the settlement of Burman cutch-boilers in the hills with a view to the adoption of this industry by the tribesmen themselves. Now that the difficulty in connection with the carrying of daggers by the Chins who visited the plains has been removed, intercourse between the tribesmen and Burmans should become more frequent and should prove of benefit to the former. Visits were exchanged during the year between the officers of the Chin and Lushai Hills by which cases pending between the two districts were disposed of. A similar meeting with the Superintendent, Manipur State, during the ensuing open season should, it is hoped, result in the settlement of certain disputes at present existing between the Kanhow Chins and the Kukis of Tunzan in Manipur. A somewhat serious raid was made by the Lasa Chins, inhabiting the unadministered tract beyond the Upper Chindwin frontier, in which a party of Shan fishermen was taken captive. They have been released but their property has not been restored. It is hoped that a meeting, which will be arranged between the Deputy Commissioner and the headmen of their tribe at the end of the rains, will result in an amicable settlement of this affair. A blockade was enforced against the troublesome Piya Chins, but it was not completely effective as the tribesmen were able to find an outlet for their trade on the Manipur side. The question of the future action to be taken with regard to this tribe is now under consideration in communication with the Government of Assam.

I—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

10. Within administered territory the year was uneventful. The experiment of enlisting Chins for police service has proved extremely successful. Tribute was collected with greater ease than in any previous year. Our relations with the trans-frontier village of Khrum were very unsatisfactory. In October 1902 they raided a small settlement of Chin police and killed a number of persons. An expedition was sent to punish them, but although the village and surrounding country were occupied without opposition the Chins who had taken part in the raid evaded capture. Efforts are now being made to induce them to surrender on terms.

The Pakôkku Chin Hills.

The Kachin Hills.

11. On the whole the year was uneventful. The tranquillity of the border was practically unbroken. A most satisfactory feature was the improvement in the relations between British and Chinese officials, which may properly be set down as one of the results of the Manai Agreement. The last instalment of the indemnity due from the Chinese under that Agreement has now been paid. All existing frontier posts were thoroughly inspected, and sites for new posts selected, during the year. The detailed reports submitted in each case are under consideration. The work of road-making by Civil Officers continued. A reconnaissance survey was carried out during the year with a view to improving communications between Bhamo and Têngyüeh. It is feared that financial considerations will prevent for some time to come the connection of the frontier posts by telegraph. Postal communication was started between Bhamo and Têngyüeh during the year. The stationing of an officer of the Imperial Chinese Customs at Têngyüeh has been followed by an increase in the volume of the trade between China and Burma. A scheme for the refund of duty on goods imported into Burma for re-export into China is now being considered. There was a noteworthy decrease in the number of forays into British territory from the Chinese side, a circumstance which may be ascribed in great measure to the Manai Agreement. The number of violent crimes, however, was double that of the previous year. Several cattle-thefts were committed by cattle-lifters from beyond the administrative frontier, and as yet no satisfaction has been obtained. It might be possible in such cases for patrols to cross the border while the tracks are still warm, and inflict chastisement, but the result would almost certainly be complications with the trans-frontier tribesmen, which at present it is desired to avoid.

Condition of the people.

12. There is little material to add on this subject to the article contained in the Report of last year. The rainfall of 1902-03 was unevenly distributed and deficient and the harvest in both Upper and Lower Burma was below the average, but there was nowhere any serious scarcity of the food-supply. One result was seen in the increased emigration from the districts of the dry zone of Upper Burma to the delta districts, where wages are high and work is plentiful. High prices of rice and paddy prevailed.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Realization of the Revenue.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report of Burma for the year ending the 30th June 1903.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1903.

Nineteenth issue Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1898-99 to 1902-03. Part I, Tables V, VI, and VII A and B.

Amounts recovered and outstanding.

13. The total demand of land revenue proper assessed during the year was Rs. 1,98,32,883. With the exception of Rs. 39,905 the whole amount was collected before the end of the year. The total amount actually collected was less by $3\frac{8}{10}$ lakhs than in the previous year, when the arrear demand was much heavier. The small amount of water-rate assessed in the Sagaing and Meiktila divisions was all collected within the year. Capitation-tax showed an amount of Rs. 45 only outstanding, while out of Rs. 52,67,410 *thathameda* assessed in Upper Burma, Rs. 2,46,617 had been remitted and a sum of Rs. 1,212 was outstanding at the close of the agricultural year. Of fishery revenue Rs. 27,85,752 were collected during the year, and Rs. 9,784 remained outstanding.

Coercive processes.

14. The total amount of land revenue of all kinds for which application for coercive processes was made was Rs. 8,23,388 as compared with Rs. 8,27,479 in the previous year, and the amount of revenue realized thereby was Rs. 6,74,273. Forty-two thousand nine hundred and seventy-five notices to defaulters, and 17,009 warrants of attachments of property, were issued by the Revenue Courts. In 1,372 cases the property attached was sold. Warrants of arrest amounted to 16,377, on which 8,746 persons were arrested, and 70 actually committed to jail. On the whole, the amount realized as a result of these coercive measures was 82 per cent. of the arrears for the recovery of which they were issued.

Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to survey.

15. A total area of 529 square miles was demarcated in Shwebo at a cost of Rs. 2,740. The demarcation work in Pakôkku district was continued and 528 square miles were completed at a cost of Rs. 2,022. The area of the district which is being demarcated comprises such tracts as it is considered, at present at any rate, necessary to bring under survey and subsequent settlement.

Survey of India.

16. In Kyaukpyu an area of 42 square miles was traversed and 81 square miles cadastrally surveyed by No. 7 Party, the work in that district being thus brought to a close. The survey was confined to tracts actually under cultivation. The party also completed in traverse 458 square miles in Pakôkku and 302 square miles in Shwebo; also the cadastral survey of 606 square miles in the former district. The cost of the operations of the field-season for the traverse section amounted to Rs. 43,482 and for the cadastral portion to Rs. 72,988, while the estimated cost of the entire work of the recess-season is put at Rs. 91,900.

Survey by local parties.

17. The revisions of survey in the Aingkalaung, Bawle and Myaungtanga circles of the Hanthawaddy district begun last year were completed in the year of report. Besides the re-surveys, the Party undertook and finished the cadastral survey of a strip of new country which has recently come under cultivation, of an average width of two miles and an area of 42 square miles, also the traversing of three *kwins* which remained over from the year before. The total area mapped consisted of 201 square miles, containing 75,370 acres under cultivation. In Toungoo owing to the rapid extension of cultivation in the Minbôn and Zeyawadi circles it was found necessary to appoint a special establishment to bring the survey properly up to date. The survey done consisted of 36 square miles in all, including 15,571 acres under cultivation, at a cost of Rs. 4,028. In Kyauksè the revision surveys commenced last season in order to assist the Revision Settlement Officer engaged in the district were continued at a cost Rs. 15,107. The annual re-survey of cul-

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

tivation on impermanent island and alluvial *kwins* of the Irrawaddy river and elsewhere was executed by local and special surveyors. No fishery surveys by special establishment were undertaken during the year. Special staffs for the survey of waste-lands for which grants had been applied for were employed in the Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, Myaungmya, Toungoo and Amherst districts. In other districts, with the exception of minor areas surveyed by special surveyors, the work was done by the ordinary Land Records staffs.

Settlements.

Original settlements.

18. The settlement report relating to the areas in the Bassein and Myaungmya districts was received during the year and orders passed on it. The new rates were notified with effect from 1st July 1903. The estimated increase of revenue from the application of the new rates was Rs. 57,402. On completion of work in Bassein and Myaungmya the party took up the original settlement of an area of 775·72 square miles in the Thôngwa and Myaungmya districts which had been surveyed cadastrally by the Land Records staff. The total cost of the operations during the year was Rs. 53,062. On completion of work in Thôngwa and Myaungmya the party will be transferred to the settlement of portions of the Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Prome districts. The Magwe Settlement Report was received during the year, and is now under consideration. The total cost of the operations was Rs. 4,72,924. On completion of work in Magwe the party was transferred to Katha, where work was begun in January 1903. During the remaining months of the field season the holding-marking of 780 *kwins* with an area of 386·90 square miles was completed. The cost of the operations during the field season was Rs. 9,628. Revised rates based on settlement were notified in the Yamèthin district, with effect from the 1st July 1903, the estimated increase in revenue from them being Rs. 2,54,665. Final orders were passed on the Sagaing Settlement Report, and the new rates were notified with effect from the 1st July 1903. The estimated increase of revenue from them is Rs. 1,66,316. Settlement operations in Shwebo district, which commenced in October 1900 were continued throughout the year.

Revision settlements.

19. The Revision Settlement of 425 square miles of the Tharrawaddy district was completed in October 1902, and the new rates based upon it were notified with effect from the 1st July 1903, the estimated increase of revenue from them being Rs. 1,08,922. In Akyab new rates based on Revision Settlement, and estimated to produce an increase of revenue of Rs. 1,55,734 were also notified with effect from the same date. The field work relating to the Revision Settlement of the whole of the settled area of the Kyauksè district was completed during the year.

Summary settlements.

20. New rates based on Summary Settlement in two townships of the Lower Chindwin district were notified with effect from the 1st July 1903, the estimated increase of revenue from them being Rs. 49,334. Operations for the remainder of the district are in progress. The report on the Summary Settlement of the Mingin subdivision of the Upper Chindwin district is under consideration by the Local Government.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

21. The total area under supplementary survey was 37,634 square miles as against 30,720 square miles of the previous year. The total assessment was Rs. 2,04,27,225, an increase of over 14 lakhs on the previous year's assessment. The increase in the area over which operations extended was brought about by extensions of cultivation, issue of grants, revision and special surveys. The total cost per square mile was slightly less than in the previous year, but the cost per cent. of the assessment increased from Rs. 3·98 to Rs. 4·27.

Survey Schools.

22. There are now 18 Government Survey Schools in the Province, or a decrease of 3 as compared with the previous year. All of these are accommodated in Government buildings except 5, for which private houses are rented. The School session commences on the 1st May and lasts for 12 months. The total number of pupils on the rolls of the Schools on the 31st March was 509, of whom 29 per cent. were exempted from the payment of the school fee. The total expenditure incurred in the maintenance of schools amounted to Rs. 38,856, while the total income from fees and other sources came to Rs. 6,920.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

23. The total figures of sales, mortgages, and redemptions of land during the year were all higher than those of the previous year. In Lower Burma the area of land sold increased from 421,417 acres in 1901-02 to 450,166 during the year now dealt with, while 301,312 acres were mortgaged, as compared with 278,720 in the previous year. The bulk of transactions are in the rich delta districts of Lower Burma, where money-lenders are willing to advance substantial sums on land at a comparatively low rate of interest. The increase in the number of mortgages was said to be due to the action of speculators who borrowed money from Chetties on the mortgage of lands which they bought to sell at a profit. In Upper Burma statistics were recorded for ten districts, in two of them, Magwe and Lower Chindwin, for the first time. Mortgages are on the increase in the Sagaing district, where the operations of Chetty money-lenders are said to be extending. In Kyauksè there was an increase in the area sold, said to be due to improved registration, and to indebtedness caused by crop failures. **Transfers of land.**

Waste Land.

24. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year exceeded 100,000 acres, or nearly double the acreage disposed of in 1900-01. In Lower Burma 16,974 applications for grants awaited disposal at the beginning of the year; 19,809 fresh applications were received; 22,596 were dealt with; and 14,187, many of which were filed shortly before the close of the hot season of 1903 and therefore too late to be taken up during the 12 months under review, remained pending on the 30th June. The area granted was largest in Thôngwa (14,754 acres), and in Toungoo (14,404). In both those districts a special officer was employed to deal with those applications. In Pegu, five special officers were appointed to deal with the large number of applications pending from the previous year. Not more than one-third of the newly-assessed area in Lower Burma was taken up under grant, the remainder being occupied by squatters without title. A proposal to suspend the issue of grants in Lower Burma, and to permit free squatting subject to supervision is now under consideration. In Upper Burma the number of applications for leases of waste-land for cultivation disposed of during the year was 2,889, the area leased being 9,816 acres. In some districts there were few applications for leases, the general practice being to occupy waste-land with squatters' rights. On a proposal to suspend altogether the issue of leases in Upper Burma, the Local Government has decided that the lease rules shall remain in force, but that cultivators shall ordinarily not be compelled to take out leases. **Grants and leases for cultivation.**

25. The area granted revenue-free for religious or public purposes amounted to 236·33 acres, of which 83·59 acres were in Rangoon, 65·47 acres being set apart for the Victoria Memorial Gardens. **Revenue-free grants.**

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

26. There are no such estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

27. In the area in Lower Burma under supplementary survey, for which figures are available, 5,948,443 acres are said to be occupied by agriculturists, as compared with 5,709,249 in the previous year. The areas held by resident and non-resident non-agriculturists increased from 4,46,658 and 7,76,067, in 1901-02 to 4,56,278 and 8,31,844 acres respectively in the year now dealt with. **Land-holders.**

28. The area held by rent-paying tenants in Lower Burma increased from 18,31,319 to 19,25,999 acres. The number of tenants who had rented their lands continuously for five years or more was 13,494, as compared with 108,198 tenants of shorter periods. The landlord generally pays the Government revenue, and the Burman landlord generally shares remission with his tenants, but not so the chetty landlord. Provision for enforcing by law a reduction in rent proportionate to remission of revenue has been inserted in a draft Tenancy Bill now under consideration by the Local Government. **Tenants.**

III.—PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1902.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1902.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1902.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1902.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1902.
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the year 1902.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1902-03.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year 1902-03.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1902-03.
Eighth issue of the Judicial and Administrative statistics of British India for 1902-03 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Course of Legislation.

Acts passed.

29. Four Acts passed by the Council of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, became law during the year as Burma Acts I to IV of 1902, namely:—

I.—The Burma Village Law Amendment Act, 1902.
II.—The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1902.
III.—The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Act, 1902.
IV.—The Burma Forest Act, 1902.

These Acts have been described in the Administration Report of the preceding year during which they were introduced before the Council.

During the year 1902 several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government; of these two were introduced in Council in January 1903, namely, the Upper Burma Towns Regulation Amendment Bill, and the Burma Muncipal Act Amendment Bill. They were subsequently passed and have become law as Burma Acts I and II of 1903.

The Upper Burma Towns Regulation Amendment Bill.

30. The Bill to amend the Upper Burma Towns Regulation, 1891, was introduced for the purpose of taking power to require reports to be made of the arrival of strangers in certain towns in Upper Burma, similar to the power already exercised in villages under the Village enactments of both Upper and Lower Burma. It is expedient to have the power of establishing a systematic supervision of strangers in towns like Bhamo, where the proximity of the Chinese frontier might afford immunity to dangerous characters in the event of organised crime. It was also considered that the proposed procedure is the best means of obtaining early warning of any organized inrush of dangerous characters, of whom large numbers might otherwise arrive in twos and threes and obtain possession of the town before their presence would attract sufficient attention. The similar provisions of the Village Regulation are already in force in Myitkyina, Mogaung and Mogôk, but in the event of Municipalities being formed there on the further development of these centres, the Village Regulation would cease to apply and it would not be possible to continue the present procedure except under the powers conferred by the Bill.

The Burma Municipal Act Amendment Bill.

31. The Bill to amend the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, empowers the Committee of the Rangoon Municipality to establish a Provident Fund for their employés, other than Government servants, whose services are only lent temporarily to the Committee. Such employés serve on a non-pensionable basis, but the Committee are empowered by section 38 of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, to grant annuities and gratuities with the sanction of the Local Government, and they have ordinarily availed themselves of this power on the retirement of deserving officers. This system was found to be open to objection, and the Committee, accordingly, submitted to the Local Government draft bye-laws embodying a scheme for the establishment of a Provident Fund, in which the share of each ser-

vant entitled to become a subscriber to the Fund would consist of monthly subscriptions (or deductions out of his salary), of the contributions by the Committee of sums equal to half such subscriptions and the increment from the investment of the same. As the payment of these contributions will be substituted for the retirement annuities and gratuities hitherto granted by the Committee, the scheme will not create any new or undue burden on the Municipal Fund. The employé will, on the other hand, obtain an assured provision for his old age or, in the event of his decease, for his family, and the addition of his own subscriptions and the increment from the continuous investment of his share will make the provision considerably larger than any gratuity or annuity which he would receive under the present law. The Bill inserted in the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, a section authorizing the necessary bye-laws for the proposed scheme, and the confirmation of the Local Government has also been made essential for the validity of any bye-law made under the section. It is also in contemplation to extend the provisions of the Provident Funds Act, 1897, to the proposed fund. III.—PROTECTION.

32. The following Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year:— General Acts affecting Burma.

II.—An Act to make better provision for securing house-accommodation for Military Officers in Cantonments [The Cantonments (House-Accommodation) Act, 1902].

III.—An Act further to amend the Indian Steamships Act, 1884, and to validate certain certificates granted to engine-drivers of steamships [The Indian Steamships (Amending and Validating) Act, 1902].

IV.—An Act to apply the provisions of the Indian Railway Companies' Act, 1895, to certain Tramway Companies [The Indian Tramways Act, 1902].

V.—An Act further to amend the Law relating to Administrators-General and Official Trustees [The Administrators-General and Official Trustees Act, 1902].

VIII.—An Act further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 [The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1902].

IX.—An Act to amend the Indian Paper Currency Act, 1900 [The Indian Paper Currency Act, 1902].

X.—An Act further to amend the Indian Emigration Act, 1883 [The Indian Emigration (Amendment) Act, 1902].

One Regulation affecting Burma was enacted during the year, namely, Regulation I of 1902 [The Kachin Hill Tribes (Amendment) Regulation, 1902].

Police.

33. The year may be regarded as having been on the whole satisfactory. Discipline and efficiency were well maintained in both sections of the force. The Police had on the whole a somewhat larger volume of crime to deal with, and attained about the same measure of success in detection as in the previous year. General observations.

34. The constitution of the force remained almost the same as in 1901. There was a slight decrease in the cost. Constitution and cost of the force.

35. The proportion of actual to sanctioned strength was greater than in the previous year, though the same difficulty as in the past was experienced in many districts in obtaining recruits, and retaining men in the service, owing to the high wages of labour prevailing throughout the province. In some districts the number of men with long service is very small. It is satisfactory that while the number of enlistments increased the number of resignations and desertions diminished. The number of dismissals, and punishments generally, increased, while there was a decrease in the number of men rewarded. District officers are unanimous in reporting that the relations between the Police and the people continue to be satisfactory. Recruiting and conduct of the men.

36. There was a satisfactory increase in the number of literate men as compared with the previous year. The quarterly examinations also showed better results and the proportion of those presenting themselves for examination who obtained certificates was higher than before. In Amherst and Minbu districts, how- Training and education of the force.

III.—PROTECTION.

ever, the number of old constables actually trained fell considerably short of the number required by rule to be trained, and in Akyab, Thatôn, Tavoy, and Yamèthin the number qualified was very small when compared with the number trained. In Minbu and Magwe, less than 35 per cent. of the men trained qualified. The training of new recruits also was not satisfactory. In some districts half only, or little more than half of the recruits were trained, while in others half or more than one half of the men trained failed to qualify. More attention must be paid to this important subject in the future. A larger number of men than in the previous year were put through their musketry training, but the figures of merit attained showed a slight falling off.

Buildings.

37. Much has been done and is still being done to improve the housing of the men. The work of replacing the old-style temporary huts with permanent or semi-permanent cottages continues. It is recognized that improved accommodation was absolutely necessary in order to increase the popularity of the service.

Cognizable crime.

38. Although there was an increase of 1,653 in the number of true cognizable cases dealt with, the percentage of convictions (66) was the same as in the preceding year. One of the least satisfactory features was the increase of 388 in serious hurt cases. The great majority of these occurred in Lower Burma, the districts of Thôngwa, Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Prome and Henzada maintaining their pre-eminence in this respect. The question of providing a means for dealing more effectively with cases in which clasp knives are used has received careful consideration from this Government during recent years. It was decided that there was not a sufficiently strong case for special legislation to prohibit or restrict the carrying and importation of these weapons. It was, however, suggested to the Hon'ble Judges of the Chief Court and the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, that further instructions for dealing with these cases might be issued to the Magistracy and this was done towards the close of the year. It is hoped that the figures for the current year will be more favourable.

Violent crime.

39. There were also marked rises in the number of excise and opium cases, due in all probability to the entertainment of additional excise establishments. On the other hand, there was a satisfactory and substantial diminution in cattle-theft cases. There was an increase of no less than 615 cases of cognizable crime in Hanthawaddy, and although detection was better than in 1901 it was not good, only 44 per cent. of true cases investigated having resulted in convictions. The number of violent crimes committed was little different from that of the previous year. Detection was in general slightly better than in 1901. It was poor in Yamèthin. The improvement in the Prome district, in this and in other respects during 1902 was noteworthy, and was probably due to the encouragement given to village headmen to arrest and confine drunken men before they should have time to do mischief. Headmen in other districts have been similarly empowered, and the same good results may be expected.

Preventive provisions.

40. Firearms were used in 43 crimes of violence. Fifty-seven villages were fined for failure to resist dacoits and robbers. The villagers seldom attempt any resistance, but there were at least two conspicuous exceptions to that rule during the year.

Working of the preventive law.

41. The percentage of success (79) obtained in prosecutions under the preventive sections was slightly better than in the previous year, but was still unduly low. Anything but a very high percentage of success in these cases implies want of care on the part of the Magistrates who sanction the prosecutions. The central bureau for investigation by finger-prints was increasingly useful during the year. There was a regrettable decrease in the number of cases brought to light by beat patrols, though the surveillance over released criminals by means of beat constables was reported to be well maintained.

Railway Police.

42. The strength of the Railway Police was slightly increased, owing to the extension of the Railway. There was a corresponding increase in the cost. The discipline and the working of the force was satisfactory, and the results of detection showed an improvement over those of 1901. The Railway Police were not, however, successful in the cases of violent crime dealt with by them.

Military Police.

43. The conduct of the force was good. There was a satisfactory diminution in the numbers of resignations and dismissals, but punishments increased slightly.

A new Kachin Company of Military Police was raised during the year. The question of the feasibility of further recruitment from indigenous races is at present under consideration. The state of health of the men still leaves much to be desired and the percentage of admissions to hospital from the Chindwin Battalion was much larger than the already large percentage of 1901. The Inspector-General has been requested to submit proposals for remedying this unsatisfactory state of affairs by arranging more frequent reliefs. III.—PROTECTION.

44. No bodies of Punitive Police were imposed during the year. Punitive Police.

45. During the year 1902 there was a further increase of 192 in the total number of headmen in the Province. The number of headmen with special civil powers was 775 in 1902 against 709 in the previous year. During the year 1902 special criminal powers were exercised by 534 headmen as compared with 498 in the preceding year. There was an increase of Rs. 3,962 in the amount of fines inflicted by them. Four headmen in Katha were dismissed for forging tax tickets and a large number of circle Thugyis in Thatôn were dismissed in connection with capitation tax frauds. There were as usual a few cases of dishonesty and dilatoriness, but on the whole the work of headmen continued to be most satisfactory. Throughout the Province headmen continued to render valuable assistance to the police. They proved themselves especially helpful in serious cases. In bad livelihood and gambling cases they were frequently apathetic and, except in a few districts, such as Tharrawaddy, they failed to show activity in opium and excise cases. Energy in these matters undoubtedly makes a headman unpopular, and local officers should endeavour, by means of rewards and in other ways, to stimulate interest in the work. Two hundred and ninety headmen were dismissed as compared with 213 in the previous year. On the other hand 596 only were fined against 1,199 in 1901, while 505 received rewards against 360. These last figures are satisfactory as indicating on the part of headmen an improved sense of their duties and responsibilities and on the part of district officers a more general appreciation of the necessity for treating headmen with consideration. *Se-eingaungs* and *ywagaungs* seem to have done a considerable amount of unobtrusive good work. Village Police.

Rangoon Town Police.

46. The conduct of the Rangoon Police force was fair during the year of report. There was a considerable increase in the number of men rewarded from the reward fund; but, although the subject has received notice in two successive Resolutions, little has been done by the local Magistracy in the way of stimulating good work among the police by commendation or reward. In the statistics of crime there are few marked variations between the figures for 1902 and the figures for the preceding year. There was a decrease of 987 in the number of true cases disposed of by the police and a diminution in the amount of serious crime. These results are attributable in great measure to the care bestowed on the surveillance of criminals, to the excellence of the arrangements for night patrolling and to the increased use made of the preventive sections (30 and 31) of the Rangoon Police Act, 1899. These sections have been of the greatest value in the prevention of crime, but it has been noticed that the majority of persons imprisoned under them are habitual criminals who resume their career of crime as soon as they have undergone the imprisonment for three months which is the maximum term that can be imposed. Further provisions were therefore considered necessary and proposals have lately been submitted to the Government of India for the amendment of the Act in such a way as to enable Magistrates to demand security from persons convicted under sections 30 and 31, and to direct their detention in rigorous imprisonment for the period, not exceeding a year, for which security is demanded. Investigation was refused in ten per cent. of cognizable cases reported as against 11 per cent. in 1901. Rangoon Town Police.

47. Results of detection were almost the same as those of the previous year. There was a satisfactory decrease in the number of cases of criminal breach of trust, which have diminished by nearly one-half since 1899. Progress was made during the year in the matter of police buildings. Eight European constables were added to the force. Considerable energy was shown by the Police in prosecutions under the gambling law. Miscellaneous

Criminal Justice.

III.—PROTECTION.

Cases instituted.

48. The number of cases instituted during the year rose in both sections of the province, the total being 74,274 as against 72,674 in 1901. In Lower Burma the largest proportionate increases were in the Prome and Amherst districts. There were also considerable increases in all districts of the Irrawaddy division except Henzada. In Upper Burma the Shwebo, Pakôkku, Myingyan and Meiktila districts were chiefly responsible for the rise.

True and false cases.

49. Sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and sixty-four cases were returned as true as compared with 67,233 in the previous year. The percentage of true to reported offences rose slightly in Lower Burma from 94·01 in 1901 to 94·3 in the year under report and in Upper Burma from 87·60 to 87·65. Of the 53,349 true cases returned for Lower Burma 25,115 were under the Indian Penal Code and 28,234 under Special and Local Laws. In Upper Burma the figures were 8,263 and 7,252, respectively, out of a total number of 15,515 cases returned as true.

Disposal of cases.

50. The total number of cases disposed of by Magistrates of all classes rose from 52,302 to 53,550 in Lower Burma and from 15,929 to 16,775 in Upper Burma. The number of cases tried by District Magistrates rose by 102 and 138 in Lower and Upper Burma, respectively. The number of cases tried by Honorary Magistrates in Lower Burma was 14,373 as compared with 14,817 in 1901 and in Upper Burma 2,000 as compared with 1,847 in the previous year. The average duration of cases was 10 days against 11 in 1901 in Lower Burma, while in Upper Burma the average duration of cases remained as in the previous year at 8 days.

Proportion of convictions.

51. Of the 90,390 persons who were tried by Magistrates in Lower Burma during the year under report 56,312 or 62·3 per cent. were convicted or committed and 34,078 or 37·7 per cent. were acquitted or discharged. The percentage of convictions during 1901 was 61·8 or slightly less. In the Upper province there was a slight improvement in the percentage of convictions, 66·48 as compared with 66·22 in 1901.

The preventive sections.

52. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to the demand of security for good behaviour in Lower Burma was 3,044 or 625 less than in the previous year and 503 as against 450 in Upper Burma. The percentage of cases in which security was demanded in Lower Burma was 78·55 per cent. against 74·96 per cent. in the previous year and in Upper Burma 73·75 per cent. against 71·03.

The Chief Court and Sessions Courts.

53. The total number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma was 490 and the total number of persons dealt with 851, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 438 and 751. The percentage of convictions was 64·7 as against 59·18 the previous year. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 34, involving 42 persons, as against 38, involving 50 persons, in 1901. The number of capital sentences referred for confirmation was 65 as compared with 72 in the previous year. Of these 40 were confirmed, 13 reversed, 1 reduced or altered, while in one case a re-trial was ordered. Eight cases, involving 10 persons, remained pending at the close of the year. The average duration of trials in Sessions Courts in Lower Burma rose from 41 to 51 days; in the Chief Court it increased from 31 to 36 days. In Upper Burma Sessions Judges disposed of 93 cases as compared with 106 in 1901. The number of persons under trial also decreased from 165 to 159. The percentage of convictions was 78·42 as against 65·07 in 1901. The average duration of sessions trials in Upper Burma fell from 37 to 34 days. Twenty-six death sentences were referred to the High Court for confirmation against 16 in the previous year. Of these 16 were confirmed, 3 reduced, 1 reversed and a re-trial ordered and 6 were pending at the close of the year.

Appeals.

54. There was an increase in the number of appeals preferred to all appellate Courts in Lower Burma as compared with the number in the previous year. The number disposed of (4,618) was slightly less than in 1901 (4,723). The percentage of sentences confirmed was 72·8 as compared with 74·49 in 1901. The average duration of appeals (21 days) shows an increase of 7 days on the

previous year. This is due chiefly to an increase from 16 to 28 days in the Sessions Court of Irrawaddy and from 23 to 32 days in the Chief Court. In Upper Burma the total number of appeals preferred was 1,390 against 1,233 in 1901. The total number disposed of was 1,351 or 145 more than in the year previous. The percentage of confirmation dropped from 62·57 to 58·52. The average duration of appeals was 11 against 10 days.

55. There was a considerable increase in the number of cases in which solitary confinement was awarded in Lower Burma. The number of whippings in lieu of other punishments also increased. On the other hand there was a decrease in the number of juveniles whipped. The number (99) of first offenders released on probation under section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code though larger than in the previous year (82) is still small. The total number of persons sentenced by the Sessions Courts in Lower Burma and the Chief Court was 498 as compared with 440 in the previous year. Of these 42 were sentenced to death and 183 to transportation. The figures relating to fines imposed and realized and the amount paid as compensation all show increases on those of the previous year. The number of persons punished in Magisterial Courts in Upper Burma rose by 885. There was a slight improvement in the number of whippings awarded in lieu of other punishments. The percentage of whippings on the total number of all punishments in cases in which whippings might have been awarded rose from 28·67 to 29·74. There was also an increase in the number of sentences of solitary confinement. Section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code was applied in 141 cases against only 93 in 1901. The number of punishments awarded in Sessions Courts was 113 against 96 the year previous. Of the persons involved 26 were sentenced to death and 35 to transportation. There was a large decrease in the amount of fines imposed as compared with 1901, due principally to the discouragement of the imposition of excessive fines, incapable of realization, in opium cases. Realizations amounted to 89 per cent. of the amount imposed against 81 per cent. the year previous. The amount paid as compensation fell from Rs. 14,963 to 14,181.

56. District Magistrates in Lower Burma did a large amount of useful revisional work during the year, having called for and examined 5,203 cases, involving 9,404 persons. This is a substantial increase over the figures of 1901, when 4,222 cases were called for involving 7,075 persons. The number of cases called for by Sessions Judges was 526 and the number of persons concerned was 1,122. The figures for the previous year were 915 and 1,429 respectively. There was an increase in the number of references in the Chief Court under section 438 of the Criminal Procedure Code as well as in the number of cases called for on the Court's own motion. In Upper Burma District Magistrates called for and examined 1,228 cases in revision otherwise than under the Criminal Justice Regulation and 1,653 under the Criminal Justice Regulation against 1,000 and 1,661 cases respectively in 1901, showing a net increase of 220 cases. Sessions Judges did less revisional work than in the previous year, onlv 770 against 927 cases having been called for. The number of persons concerned was 2,057 against 3,304 in 1901. The total number of cases which came before the Judicial Commissioner's Court in revision was 1,076 against 1,241 in 1901 and the number of persons concerned 2,019 against 2,806. The number of references under section 438, Criminal Procedure Code, declined from 145 to 88. The number of cases called for on the Court's own motion and on application dropped from 1,024 to 869.

57. The number of juvenile offenders sent to the Reformatory School during 1902 was 10 as against 13 in 1901. Of this number 8 were from Lower Burma. The number of witnesses examined in courts in Lower Burma was 2,04,453 against 1,88,927. The number of witnesses who attended courts in Upper Burma rose from 79,375 to 83,002 and the number who were examined from 59,424 to 63,866. During the year under report 8 District Magistrates' Courts, 9 Subdivisional Magistrates' Courts, 33 Township Magistrates' Courts and 5 Courts of Honorary Magistrates were inspected by the Judges of the Chief Court in Lower Burma. Almost all the remaining courts were inspected at least once during the year by Sessions Judges and District Magistrates.

Prisons.

III.—Protection.

General Statistics.

58. The jail population at the commencement of the year (11,731 of whom 11,598 were males, 133 females) was less than at the beginning of the year 1901 (11,963 males and 111 females). The year's admissions (29,169 of whom 28,270 were males and 899 females) were greater than in 1901 (26,903 of whom 26,046 were males and 857 females); the aggregate number increased from 38,977 (of whom 38,009 were males and 968 females) to 40,900 (of whom 39,868 were males and 1,032 females). The daily average number of all classes decreased from 11,915 (of whom 11,795 were males and 120 females) to 11,525 of whom 11,397 were males and 128 females) and was smaller than in any of the seven preceding years. The number discharged 29,732 was greater than in 1901 (27,246). The year closed with a smaller jail population (11,168) than that with which it opened. The number of direct commitments increased from 15,320 to 16,038 and the number received by transfers from jails in the province increased from 2,379 to 2,904. The returns of transfers to other jails to undergo sentences or transportations beyond seas were 2,991 as compared with 2,387 in 1901.

Accommodation.

59. Including hospital and observation cells there was accommodation for 16,335 prisoners of all classes as compared with 16,091 in the year 1901. The increase of 244 is due to the extension of the sleeping wards in the Myaungmya Jail (205), the construction of 20 additional cells in Thayetmyo, 10 in Myaungmya, 4 in Kyaukpyu, 3 in Shwegyin and 2 in Myingyan. The average strength of all classes was 11,397 males and 128 females while the capacity of all the jails in the province was 15,282, *viz.*, 14,884 males, 398 females. At times there was slight overcrowding in certain Jails but it was promptly relieved by transfers.

Judicial.

60. Of the 16,038 convicts admitted during the year, 3,681 or 22·95 per cent. had previous convictions, 1,548 of these having been previously convicted more than once. The percentage of previous convictions during 1901 was 23·26. The percentage varied from 45·28 in the Thayetmyo Jail to 7·19 at Bhamo. The number of prisoners committed to jail under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code (1892) showed a decrease as compared with the previous year (2,219). Habitual offenders numbered 3,060 as compared with 3,096 in the previous year. Of these all but 54 were identified before conviction and of these one confessed himself to be an habitual.

Discipline.

61. During the year 1902 there was one escape from the Ma-ubin Jail. The prisoner was subsequently recaptured. At the close of the year 10 fugitives compared with 12 in 1901 remained uncaptured. Thirty-eight thousand six hundred and forty-three offences were dealt with by Jail Superintendents and 58 by Criminal Courts as compared with 36,635 and 48 respectively, the previous year; 86·34 of the offences dealt with by Superintendents were classed as minor. Major punishments increased from 4,527 to 5,279 in the year under review.

Financial.

62. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails amounted to Rs. 7,86,585 against Rs. 7,95,874 in the previous year, the cost per head of average strength being Rs. 68-4-0 against Rs. 66-12-9 in 1901. The cash earnings of convicts sentenced to labour amounted to Rs. 2,01,045 against Rs. 1,99,558 in the previous year. If the earnings of the convicts employed in the Jail Press are taken into account the nett earnings would be Rs. 3,26,322 and the average earnings Rs. 34-7-2. The average number of convicts sentenced to labour was 9,473 as against 9,860 in 1901. Of these 43·65 were employed industrially, a slightly higher percentage than in 1901.

Gardening.

63. The outturn, excluding farm produce, supplied to prisoners weighed 2,669,771 lbs. valued at Rs. 52,109 compared with 2,620,800 lbs. valued at Rs. 53,310 in the preceding year. The quantity purchased from contractors was 25,511 lbs. valued at Rs. 422 and the amount realized by sales to the public was Rs. 8,868 as compared with 48,412 lbs., Rs. 1,598 and Rs. 9,198 respectively in 1901.

Health Statistics.

64. The ratios of admissions to hospital and of deaths per mille of average population were 537·01 and 15·88 in 1902 as compared with 547·46 and 15·19 in 1901. The jail administration of this province may be congratulated on the fact

that its jails were quite immune from cholera during the year 1902. The total number of admissions into hospital on account of dysentery was 576, nearly a hundred less than the previous year when the number was 673. Towards the 576 cases the Insein Central Jail contributed 109. The death rate from all causes was highest at Akyab (49·28), Kindat (48·78) and Bhamo (44·78) while at Myanaung, Tavoy, Toungoo, Shwegyin, Katha, Pakôkku and Taungdwingyi there were no deaths during 1902, a still more satisfactory record than that of the previous year. III.—Prosperity.

Civil Justice.

65. The number of suits instituted in Burma during the year was 64,618 against 58,143 in 1901. The increase was common to both sections of the province. In Lower Burma it amounted to about 10 per cent. almost the whole of the aggregate increase being accounted for by the increase in the number of suits for money and moveable property. In Upper Burma it amounted to 15 per cent. being attributed to the progress of the province. The total value of suits rose in Lower Burma to Rs. 1,05,39,293 or Rs. 33,82,224 over the figure of 1901. Rs. 22,15,800 of this increase was contributed by the Chief Court. The rise in the total value of suits in Upper Burma from Rs. 22,99,929 to Rs. 24,55,737 was in keeping with the rise in the number of suits instituted and occurred under every head. Amount and classification of litigation.

66. The number of cases disposed of during the year was 64,784 as compared with 57,490 in the previous year. Of this number 12,920 were decided without trial and 32,318 without contest. As regards contested cases judgment was given for the plaintiff in whole or in part in 13,331 cases or 68 per cent. the same percentage as the year before. The average duration of contested and uncontested cases rose in both Upper and Lower Burma. Cases referred to arbitration decreased by 2 in Lower Burma and increased by 5 in Upper Burma. The number of cases compromised was 5,236 as against 5,087 in 1901. Five thousand one hundred and forty-one cases were pending at the close of the year as compared with 4,859 cases in 1901, of which 1,134 were pending more than three months at the close of the year against 1,054 in the preceding year. Disposal of cases.

67. There were 23,739 applications for execution of decrees before Courts in Lower Burma and 8,411 in Upper Burma excluding those disposed of by transfer. The figures for the previous year were 20,318 and 6,164 respectively. In Lower Burma the smaller percentage of wholly infructuous cases and increase in the amount realized as compared with the previous year, are noticeable. The number of cases disposed of in Upper Burma was 7,361 of which 43 per cent. were wholly successful, 20 per cent. partially successful and 36 per cent. wholly infructuous. The amount realized in execution was greatly in excess of the figure of 1901. Execution of decrees.

68. The number of hearings in insolvency cases in Lower Burma was the same as in the previous year, but the amount of creditors' claims dealt with and of property realized and disbursed showed a marked decrease. The number of applications for insolvency before Upper Burma Courts was 113 or 60 more than in 1901. Only 37 or 42 per cent. of the cases disposed of, were successful, against 54 per cent. during the previous year. Insolvency proceedings.

69. The number of regular appeals in the Province rose very slightly from 5,012 to 5,024. The numbers instituted and disposed of in District Courts in Lower Burma were 2,141 and 1,754 respectively. There was a further drop from 1,248 to 1,232 in the number of appeals preferred to district Courts in Upper Burma. Decrees of Lower Courts in Lower Burma were modified in 7 per cent., reversed in 27·8 per cent. and confirmed in 59 per cent. of cases; the corresponding figures for the previous year being 6·5, 31·1 and 59·6. Out of the 1,195 cases disposed of in District Courts in Upper Burma 717 or 60 per cent. were confirmed against 57 per cent. the year previous. The number of appeals before Divisional Courts in Lower Burma increased from 257 to 309. The average duration of appeals, 65 days, in Divisional Courts in Lower Burma was three days less than in the previous year. Decrees of the Lower Courts were modified in 16 per cent., reversed in 14·1 per cent. and confirmed in 66·3 per cent. of the cases appealed. There were three against eight appeals before Divisional Judges in Upper Burma. Only one case was confirmed and two were modified. The number of regular Appeals.

III.—Protection. appeals instituted in the Chief Court was 276 as compared with 335 in the previous year. The number disposed of was 306 as against 293. The number of applications for revision shows no noteworthy variations. In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, the number of appeals preferred during the year was 350 as compared with 360 in 1901. The number pending from the previous year was 120 so that the number for disposal rose from 432 to 470. There was more interference with the decisions of the lower Courts than in 1901. The number of revisions by the High Court rose from 98 to 121. The number of miscellaneous applications made to that Court was 53 or 9 more than in 1901. Proposals for the amendment of the Upper Burma Civil Justice Regulation, 1896, with a view to restricting second appeals and revisions were under consideration and have since been enacted.

Inspections. 70. The Judges of the Chief Court inspected during the year 8 District Courts, 10 Subdivisional Courts and 31 Township Courts. Judges of Divisional Courts in Lower Burma inspected 7 District Courts, 16 Subdivisional Courts and 49 Township Courts. Judges of District Courts were also active in this branch of their duties and few Courts remained without at least one visit of inspection at the end of the year. The Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, inspected 8 District, 7 Subdivisional and 15 Township Courts, or 30 Courts in all as compared with 25 in 1901. Divisional Judges inspected 85 and District Judges 148 Courts against 78 and 154 respectively the year before.

Miscellaneous. 71. Attention has generally been paid to the condition of libraries in district and subordinate Courts. In Lower Burma a common defect noticed is failure to keep correction slips posted up to date. There has, however, been a marked improvement in this work in Subdivisional and Township Courts in Upper Burma. The sanction accorded during the year to a moderate expenditure on text-books and commentaries for subordinate Courts is reported in Lower Burma to be highly appreciated. The progress made during the year in the destruction of old records in Upper Burma was satisfactory except in two districts. Improvements in Court accommodation have been made or estimated for in the Pegu and Henzada districts. Improvement is also reported to be specially required at Kyaukpyu, Myaungmya, Wakèma and Pantanaw. In view of the delay which is likely to occur in the provision of a suitable building for the Chief Court, proposals for extending the accommodation of the existing Court-house have been submitted to Government. In Upper Burma court-houses are generally reported to be in good order. The schemes for reorganizing the administration of Civil Justice in Lower Burma by the constitution of superior and subordinate judicial services are still under consideration.

Registration.

Registration of deeds. 72. The law regarding the registration of deeds remained unchanged throughout the year under review, but some alterations were made in the rules. The most important of these was the amendment of Rule 4 (*a*) of the Rules under the Upper Burma Registration Regulation so as to make the attachment of maps to documents optional where an explicit reference to an official survey is contained in the document itself.

Number of offices. 73. The amalgamation of the Kangyidaung and Bassein townships led to the closing of the office at Kangyidaung (Bassein) while those at Male (Shwebo) and Myingun (Magwe) were closed owing to the insignificant number of transactions, reducing the number of offices to 145.

Documents registered and their value. 74. The increase in the number of documents registered in Lower Burma amounted to over 15 per cent., while the gross receipts from fees for all operations was somewhat over 23 per cent. in excess of the previous year's figures. The improvement was mainly under the head instruments of mortgage, but instruments of sale also showed a large increase. The increase is variously attributed to poor crops, losses in paddy trading and, in Rangoon, to speculation in land consequent on the acquisition of the new Chief Court site whereby those dispossessed, had to seek suitable sites elsewhere. The average value of the documents registered rose from Rs. 1,270 to Rs. 1,434. The figures for the number of documents and for the gross receipts from fees for all operations in Upper Burma have again taken

an upward turn, the increase in each being somewhat over 9 per cent. The total of the former almost reached the record of 1900-01 while that of the latter exceeded it. On the other hand, however, the average value of the documents registered fell from Rs. 674 to Rs. 633. III.—PROTECTION.

75. Gross and net receipts in Burma amounted to Rs. 1,30,304 and Rs. 85,503 respectively, while the increase in expenditure over the charges of the previous year was only Rs. 749. This amount debited against the department does not, however, include any proportion of the salaries paid to Registering Officers all of whom in Burma are Government Officers who devote only a portion of their time to registration. Receipts and expenditure.

76. The Inspector-General considers that throughout the year there was a steady improvement in the way in which work was done. Upper Burma Officers still continue to advocate the introduction of the Indian Registration Act and Rules. This matter must, however, await the orders of the Government of India on certain proposals now under its consideration. General remarks.

Municipal Administration.

77. During the year the northern boundary of the Rangoon Municipality was curtailed and made conterminous with the district boundary. The incidence of taxation and income per head of population amounted respectively to Rs. 6·04 and Rs. 29·29. Exclusive of debt accounts the general income and expenditure aggregated Rs. 24,62,704 and Rs. 43,60,886 as compared with Rs. 22,56,981 and Rs. 27,64,634 in 1901-02. The rate of the General Municipal tax was reduced from 9 to 8 per cent. from the beginning of the year, but notwithstanding this reduction, the total income from taxation shows an increase of Rs. 45,000 over the figures of the previous year, and the Committee after due consideration have decided to maintain the reduced rate for another year. Two large loans for Reclamation and for the Hlawga Scheme were floated during the year on more favourable terms than have hitherto been obtainable. The Hlawga Water-supply Scheme is being pushed on by the Public Works Department and it is anticipated according to the latest estimate that it should be in working order by the 31st March 1905. The scheme for the introduction of electricity has not yet been carried into effect, but tenders have been obtained and further progress may be looked for. The orders of the Government of India regarding Reclamation and the credit of Town Lands receipts have been received. The main point, namely, that the receipts should be devoted to the reclamation of waste lands in Rangoon for 50 years has been conceded, but the Government of India desire that details of the scheme of works, with special reference to the question of providing adequately for the housing of the poor, should be furnished and they propose that the Municipal Committee should contribute towards the scheme one-half of the receipts from Municipal taxation of the reclaimed area. The reply of the Committee has been submitted to the Government of India. An annual grant of Rs. 10,000 for the upkeep of the Victoria Memorial Park has been sanctioned by Government. Rangoon.

78. The number of Municipalities in the province at the end of March 1903 was 40, being one less than the number at the close of the preceding year. The diminution was due to the abolition of the Pagan Municipality and its reconstitution as the Nyaungu Town Committee under the Municipal Act, 1898. Of the 40 Municipalities 11 were administered under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation, 1887; but the reconstitution of three of these, namely, Myingyan, Yamèthin and Kyauksè under the Municipal Act, 1898, was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1903. Minor Municipalities.

79. The total number of members of Municipal Committees excluding Pagan was 527 of whom 167 were *ex-officio*, 265 nominated and 95 elected. Of the Commissioners 333 were non-officials and 375 were natives. These figures do not differ materially from those of the preceding year. The figures of average attendance of members show a considerable improvement. Elections were held during the year at Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Pegu, Bassein, Toungoo, Mandalay and Moulmein. Constitution of Committees.

80. The average amount paid as taxes by each inhabitant of a Municipality throughout the province was Rs. 1-7-5, and the income per head of population Taxation.

III.—PROTECTION.

averaged Rs. 4-13-1 per annum, the figures for the previous year being Rs. 1-4-7 and Rs. 3-14-7 respectively. The incidence of taxation was heaviest at Moulmein (Rs. 2-11-3), Prome (Rs. 2-4-6) and Bassein (Rs. 2-2-10), while, owing to the raising of loans, the incidence of income was highest in Myaungmya, Prome, and Moulmein, the figure in each case exceeding Rs. 10. Taxation was lightest in Taungdwingyi (Rs. 0-4-5) and Bhamo (Rs. 0-5-2). Fresh imposts were levied as follows:—at Henzada a tax on lands covered by buildings under section 46 (*1*) (A) (*b*) of the Act; at Myaungmya scavenging and latrine taxes; at Toungoo and Akyab scavenging taxes. At Pegu a fresh tax on uncovered areas under section 46 (*1*) (A) (*c*) of the Act was imposed. At Moulmein it was found necessary temporarily to enhance the water-tax.

Income and expenditure.

81. Exclusive of items under the head "Extraordinary and debt" the aggregate income amounted to Rs. 24,87,538 as compared with Rs. 22,92,673 in 1901-02, and the ordinary expenditure to Rs. 29,27,237 as against Rs. 23,31,386 in the previous year. The total closing balance was Rs. 7,16,471, the opening balance being Rs. 6,80,079.

Rates and taxes.

82. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 9,77,551 or Rs. 55,679 more than in 1901-02 although 15 Municipalities show reduced collections. The most noticeable increases occurred in tolls on roads and ferries and in water-rates. Realisations under special Acts increased by about Rs. 6,000. Cattle-pound receipts and hackney-carriage receipts both contributed to the increase.

Other sources of revenue.

83. The total revenue derived from Municipal property apart from taxation was Rs. 13,03,989 as compared with Rs. 12,34,516 in the previous year. Fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses increased from Rs. 10,42,096 to Rs. 10,99,783. The most noticeable proportionate increases were Rs. 36,956 at Mandalay, Rs. 3,422 at Myaungmya, and Rs. 3,220 at Bhamo. Among the other heads hack-cart receipts showed a considerable increase and sale-proceeds of land, conservancy receipts and fines smaller relative increases.

Grants and contributions.

84. The amounts contributed from Government and local sources were Rs. 76,257 and Rs. 70,749 as compared with Rs. 49,913 and Rs. 38,640 in 1901-02. The contributions from other sources amounted to Rs. 4,771 as compared with Rs. 3,010. The most noteworthy grants from Government during the year were a grant of half a lakh to the Prome Municipality for various urgent sanitary improvements, the cost of which the Municipal Fund could not bear in full, and a contribution of Rs. 4,500 to the Shwebo Committee to aid them in the construction of a new hospital. The Thatôn Municipality received a contribution of Rs. 5,900 from the District Cess Fund towards the construction of a new hospital. The Thônzè Municipality received a gift of Rs. 2,000 from a public-spirited member of its Committee to be spent on the sinking of a tube-well.

General administration and collection charges.

85. The charges for general administration and the collection of taxes increased from Rs. 2,52,529 to Rs. 2,74,454, but no less than 18 Municipalities record a diminution of expenditure under this head.

Expenditure on public safety.

86. The total expenditure on public safety fell from Rs. 2,01,080 to Rs. 1,89,849, the whole of the decrease being accounted for by diminished expenditure at Mandalay. Under Police nine Municipalities in Upper Burma continued to incur expenditure.

Water-supply.

87. Under the sub-head water-supply the expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,01,987 as against Rs. 78,469 in 1901-02. The bulk of this amount was incurred at Moulmein, where the water-works are now approaching completion. The Moulmein scheme met with considerable local opposition on the ground of expense; but there is every indication that it has been carried out none too early for the health of the town, which was visited by a serious epidemic of cholera at the close of the year under review. It is reported that the work has been carefully executed and is likely to realise anticipations made regarding it. The estimated cost of the undertaking considerably exceeds nine lakhs. At Prome important improvements to the existing water-works cost the Municipality slightly less than a lakh of rupees. The Mandalay scheme is still suspended pending the completion of the Cantonment part of the project. At Akyab a scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Sanitary Board; while at Bassein experiments are being undertaken with a filter and it has been suggested that the water-works scheme ought to be postponed

III—PROTECTION.

in favour of certain important reclamation projects. A tube-well which was sunk at Thônzè during the year has so far unfortunately proved a failure; but further steps are being taken to turn it to account. In some of the other smaller Municipalities there are also proposals for sinking tube-wells.

Sanitation.

88. The expenditure under the sub-head drainage increased from Rs. 27,412 to Rs. 37,101 during the year under report. Nearly the whole of this expenditure was incurred by the Prome Municipality in the construction of surface drains and the filling up of insanitary tanks, part of the charges being met by a grant from Government, which has already been alluded to. At Henzada improvements in drains were carried out, and money was also spent on the plague segregation camp. At Mandalay some progress was made in the execution of drainage works, but at Pegu the arrangements seem to leave much to be desired. Mosquito brigades were started on a small scale in one or two places: but no very definite results appear yet to have been attained.

Conservancy.

89. Expenditure on conservancy has increased by Rs. 22,593. There were considerable increases at Pegu, Toungoo, Moulmein, Mandalay and Mônywa, while decreases at Bassein and Pakôkku have been satisfactorily explained. The Sanitary Commissioner has again reported adversely on the conservancy system at Moulmein, and expresses himself as dissatisfied with the progress made at Mandalay. The tramway conservancy system at Bassein is reported to have given satisfaction, and proposals are under consideration for its extension elsewhere.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

90. Expenditure on hospitals increased from Rs. 3,26,331 to Rs. 3,65,761. The principal individual increases occurred at Mandalay, Bassein, Moulmein, Thatôn and Shwebo. At the two last mentioned places new hospitals were constructed with the aid of grants. Proposals for the construction of new hospitals at Paungdè and Ma-ubin are under consideration. Expenditure on vaccination diminished from Rs. 16,289 to Rs. 15,149. The decrease appears to have been due to greater economy in management and accidental causes.

Markets and slaughter-houses.

91. The expenditure on markets and slaughter-houses advanced from Rs. 1,86,419 to Rs. 2,22,223. At Myaungmya a large sum was spent on the construction of a new bazaar. At Mandalay the new bazaar, for which a sum of Rs. 7,23,000 has been raised on loan, was not commenced till the 1st of March. At Letpadan and Zalun additional bazaar buildings were constructed.

Registration of vital statistics.

92. The cost of registering births and deaths amounted to Rs. 10,909 as compared with Rs. 11,499 in the previous year.

Public Works.

93. Under the head of Public Works expenditure increased slightly from Rs. 5,53,265 to Rs. 5,66,737 during the year. Establishments cost Rs. 96,592 as compared with Rs. 1,00,556 and Roads Rs. 4,58,215 as compared with Rs. 4,39,208. Prome, Yandoon, Bassein, Henzada and Moulmein have spent considerably more and Mandalay and Pegu considerably less than in the previous year. At Mandalay the construction of the new tramway is now well advanced under the auspices of the Burma Electric Tramways and Lighting Company.

Public Instruction.

94. Municipal expenditure on public instruction showed a decrease of Rs. 6,281. The difference is accounted for by the special contribution last year of Rs. 12,000 to the Myanaung school. The Yandoon allotment for education has again fallen and is now less than 5 per cent. of the annual income. At Henzada and Toungoo, and in Upper Burma, expenditure on education has increased. At Salin an effort was made to open an Anglo-Vernacular school; but the attempt was abandoned.

Loans.

95. During the year Moulmein raised Rs. 3,49,000 in the open market in connection with its water-works scheme. At the end of the year its balance of loans stood at Rs. 5,55,000. The Prome Municipal Committee borrowed Rs. 1,50,000 from Government in connection with its water-works and its scheme for sanitary improvements; while for the purpose of rebuilding the Myaungmya bazaar the Local Committee borrowed Rs. 45,000. The Mandalay Committee obtained sanction during the year under report for the loan for the construction of the Zegyo bazaar; but it was not actually negotiated till the 1st of April. The balance of Government loans outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 2,78,733.

III.—PROTECTION.

Audit and defalcations.

96. The state of the work of the local audit branch is reported by the Accountant-General to be satisfactory; but there were nevertheless arrears, and some of the Municipal Funds were not audited at all during the year under review. In most cases the result of the audit appears to have been satisfactory; but at Akyab and Bhamo there is room for considerable improvement.

Town Funds.

97. In addition to the nine notified areas which had been constituted at the end of the previous year, areas were notified at Insein, Nyaunglebin, Wakèma and Maymyo. The Committee at Zigôn was formally reconstituted under the Act. Since the close of the year the Committee at Kawkareik has been similarly reconstituted. The total receipts of the various funds amounted to Rs. 2,18,296, exclusive of the opening balances. The expenditure was Rs. 1,84,971, and the closing balance being Rs. 1,20,223.

Military.

98. Major-General M. Protheroe, C.B., C.S.I., held command of the Burma District throughout the year. The total strength of the troops in Burma at the beginning of the year was 10,311, of whom 3,158 were Europeans and 7,153 were Natives; the number at the close of the year being 13,679, of whom 4,789 were Europeans and 8,890 were Natives.

[Volunteering.]

99. There was no change in the constitution of the volunteer forces during the year under review. They consist of the Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers (comprising Artillery, Naval, and Engineer Corps), the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Rifles, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps, and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles. The aggregate enrolled strength of the combined force on the 31st March 1903 was 2,602 active and 135 reservists against 2,460 active and 147 reservists on the same date in the previous year. Of the active volunteers 2,304 were adults and 298 cadets. The amount of capitation tax earned was Rs. 89,888 against Rs. 83,163 in 1901-02.

Marine.

100. No British man-of-war visited the province. The R.I.M.S. *Dalhousie* visited the light-houses regularly throughout the year once a month. The R.I.M.S. *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen* and *Bhamo*, plying on the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers, carried 5,835⅔ tons of stores and 54½ lakhs of specie, as well as troops, cattle, ammunition, etc. The aggregate earnings of the three vessels for the year amounted to Rs. 2,26,844 against Rs. 1,34,593 in 1901-02.

101. The total number of vessels and flats employed in Burma was 81 as compared with 75 last year. Of these 35 were employed in Upper Burma as against 34 in the previous year. The *Surveyor*, *Builder*, *Tawa* and flats **A**, **B** and **E** were added to the list. The *Patrol* and *Pyapôn* arrived in December 1902 and relieved the *Ant* and *Moulmein*, which vessels were sold. The *McIvor* and the *Ôktaung* both struck snags and sank, but were successfully raised. The average number of days on which each vessel was employed and the number of hours under steam increased from 166 days and 2,211 hours to 174 days and 2,356 hours respectively. As in the previous year, the Upper Burma vessels were more fully utilized than the Lower Burma flotilla.

102. The total outlay on the whole flotilla was Rs. 5,37,127 as compared with Rs. 4,81,238 in 1901-02. The total receipts from earnings fell from Rs. 3,54,699 to Rs. 3,46,753. Sixteen vessels produced a net profit on their working of Rs. 47,289, while the remainder of the fleet showed losses aggregating Rs. 2,37,663. The outturn of work in the Marine Workshop, Mandalay, again increased in value by Rs. 6,434 as compared with last year. This was accounted for by the larger amount of work done for the Public Works Department. Four new machines were added to the workshop, which enabled the work to be more expeditiously carried out.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Nineteenth issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1898-99 to 1902-03, Part I, Tables 1 to 6A and B.

Tenth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables XXVI (Coal mines), XXVII (Minerals) and XXX (Foreign trade).

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Eighth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1902-03 and preceding years—Table XIX.

Agriculture.

Cropped area.

103. The total net area cropped during the year was 11,355,614 acres as compared with 11,699,018 in the previous year. The area occupied but left fallow increased from 2,546,982 to 2,892,605 acres. The increase in fallow areas was chiefly in Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Prome, Thôngwa, Bassein, Henzada, Myaungmya, Toungoo, Amherst, Thayetmyo, Magwe, Lower Chindwin and Myingyan districts. A decrease was shown notably in Thatôn, Minbu, Mandalay, Katha, Shwebo, Sagaing, Kyauksè, Meiktila and Yamèthin. In cropped areas Akyab showed an increase of over 12,000 acres, Thôngwa of 8,900 acres, Toungoo of 9,000, Thatôn of 12,000, Amherst of 7,300, Mandalay of 15,000, Bhamo of 3,000, Katha of 18,000, Shwebo of 50,845, Sagaing of 23,800, Meiktila of 3,500 and Yamèthin of 16,300. Myingyan showed a decrease of 165,600 acres, Upper Chindwin of 65,700, Lower Chindwin of 18,100, Magwe of 181,800, Pakôkku of 12,000, Thayetmyo of 21,800, Myaungmya of 7,300, Henzada of 9,000, Bassein of 17,900, Prome of 1,000, Pegu of 7,200 and Hanthawaddy of 4,250. The increase in the area cropped in Thôngwa would have been larger but for the cyclone and subsequent rain in May which flooded low-lying areas, and for a rise in the Irrawaddy which kept the water in and impeded cultivation. Cattle disease and unfavourable rainfall were the cause of the large increase of fallow area in Bassein and the consequent decrease in cropped area. Heavy floods from the Irrawaddy, Ngawun and hill streams, following on the cyclone, caused an increase of 11,458 acres of fallow area in Henzada. Of 4,84,205 acres cropped in Myaungmya, 10,730 acres, chiefly in Pantanaw township, failed, owing to floods after July, to mature. Over 9,000 acres in excess of last year were brought under cultivation in Toungoo. Cultivation in that district is yearly extending. Immigrants from Upper Burma are taking up land in Ôktwin and Tantabin townships, where a large area of fertile waste is available for cultivation. In Thatôn the inroad of salt water in Bilin township and the failure of the later rains damaged considerable areas upon which the crops sown failed to mature. Salt water is finding its way into inland streams and creeks year by year in this district.

IV.—Production and Distribution.

In Upper Burma generally the earlier rainfall was encouraging, and a larger area than usual was brought under cultivation. There was, however, a general deficiency of rain later in the season which resulted in a proportionate failure of the crops sown. In Minbu, in spite of an increase of total area under cultivation, induced by the promise of the early rains, the area of crop failures increased by 58,928 acres. The Mogaung or rain paddy was practically a total failure. In Mandalay, the increase in the area under cultivation was partly due to the addition of 8 island *kwins* which were transferred from Sagaing district. A larger area this year failed to mature, owing to the early inundation of the Shwetachaung tract and to the absence of ripening showers in October and November. The twice-cropped area showed an increase of 4,903 acres. The increase in area under cultivation in Bhamo was chiefly due to immigration. In Katha increase in area was due to the promise of the early rains and to the cessation of rinderpest among cattle. In Shwebo, fallows decreased by 50,995 acres, and cultivated area rose by 50,845 acres. But of the cultivated area 67,534 acres failed to mature. Large tracts of land were brought under cultivation on the strength of the good early rains. Sagaing experienced similar conditions, 1,74,479 acres failed out of 4,77,982 acres cultivated. In Lower Chindwin, an untimely rise in the Chindwin River destroyed considerable areas of low-lying paddy lands. Floods in September damaged paddy-land in the Upper Chindwin district. In Meiktila there was an increase on last year of the area on which crops failed by 35,779 acres. In Yamèthin cultivation extended. The unfavourable season was the cause of a serious decrease in the area cropped in Myingyan.

Area irrigated.

104. The total area irrigated was 6,49,062 as compared with 7,55,585 acres in the previous year. The decrease was due to the scantier rainfall. In Minbu there was a decrease on the previous year's area of 15,263 acres, of which the greater portion belonged to the Government canals. A portion of the Sagu canal was during the year remodelled by the Irrigation Department, and, owing to late completion, the supply of water was late. Later in the year, the rains having failed, canal water also failed. The Salin system suffered badly from want of rain. In Magwe the irrigation canals and tanks are private works, and the area irrigated by them decreased considerably during the year under report owing to the rainfall on which the works are dependent being below the average. In Mandalay the area irrigated increased by 12,291 acres, chiefly in the area irrigated from Government canals. The Mandalay canal, by means of three of its distributaries, irrigated 7,223 acres. In the Shwetachaung tract, irrigation greatly improved, and the area irrigated was nearly half as much again as that of last year. The construction of the Mandalay canal distributaries and water-courses interfered with the irrigation in the Aungbinle tract. The area of crops irrigated in the Mandalay district increased from 29,139 to 41,559 acres, of which 38,622 were paddy and 2,937 garden land and miscellaneous crops. In Katha, about three-fourths of the paddy area is irrigated more or less by private canals, but the area cannot be classified as there are no accurate figures. In Shwebo the irrigated area rose from 32,643 to 34,022 acres. Tanks and wells received a good supply of water from the early rainfall and supplemented to a certain extent the failure of the later rains. In Kyauksè, the water-supply in the Panlaung *chaung* was generally sufficient. In the Zawgyi, however, it was very scanty, the year being the worst on record since 1894. Streams from the Shan Hills gave a larger supply than last year. Out of a total of 99,151 acres irrigated during the year in Meiktila, 46,636 acres were irrigated by tanks maintained by Government and the rest by private canals and wells. The scarcity of the rainfall was responsible for a decrease of 3,205 acres on the previous year's area. Some improvements in existing works were during the year carried out by the Irrigation Department.

Area under various crops.

105. The area under rice was slightly in excess of that for the previous year, but the area which failed to mature was more than doubled. The area under maize increased owing to the encouragement of the early rains. Gram suffered from insufficient rain except in Meiktila, where it was planted on paddy-land. The season was generally favourable for the cultivation of sessamum, but in Mandalay paddy-land formerly cultivated with sessamum was, owing to improved irrigation,

planted with paddy. The area under cotton showed a decrease of 5,678 acres. The cultivation of indigo has been discouraged by the introduction of cheaper chemical dyes.

106. Most districts in Burma were comparatively free from cattle-disease during the year, and the statistics indicate an increase in the number of cattle. As usual bulls and bullocks were extensively exported from Upper Burma to the Delta districts. In Sagaing the breeding of sheep is said to be increasing and to be replacing goat-breeding. The sheep find a good market in Mandalay.

107. The outturn of rice during the year was below normal 14,23,000 tons were exported from Burma between the 1st January and the 30th June. Prices of paddy were throughout the Province generally higher than those recorded last year. The generally indifferent season and unusual conditions of demand were responsible. There were considerable fluctuations in the Rangoon market accompanied by sympathetic fluctuations in the markets which it rules. Failure of crops in China, Japan, Penang and the Straits created a demand for paddy in January, February and March and a consequent rise in price. Akyab, Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Prome, Thôngwa, Bassein, Henzada, Myaungmya, Amherst and Tavoy markets were proportionately affected. Chinese firms in Moulmein chartered special steamers to convey paddy to the Straits and bought large quantites of paddy at high rates. The European firms in Moulmein and Rangoon rose in competition, and for a fortnight in April prices went up to Rs. 130. In all the paddy-producing districts of Lower Burma high prices prevailed, but it is doubtful whether the *bonâ fide* cultivators benefitted to any great extent. The price of sessamum rose in Akyab owing to a larger demand. In Kyaukpyu the price fell owing to a large supply from An, where a bumper crop was raised. Also sessamum was rapidly sold in order to raise money to buy paddy. In Kyauksè the price rose owing to scarcity following the failure of the late sessamum crop. In Prome the price of gram fell owing to a larger output. In Bassein the price of tobacco decreased owing to an increased importation, as also did in Henzada the prices of pulses and of sessamum. The price of cotton in Sagaing rose owing to increased demand for export. In Myingyan the price rose owing to good quality of the crop and to export to Bhamo.

108. Agricultural advances, amounting in all to Rs. 3,47,078, were made to cultivators during the year as compared with Rs. 2,18,245 in 1901-02. The opening balance outstanding at the beginning of the year was Rs. 2,20,853, and the amount recovered during the year was Rs. 2,35,953, leaving a closing balance outstanding of Rs. 3,31,978. Akyab, Tharrawaddy and Bassein were the districts in Lower Burma in which the largest sums were advanced, but the loans are more appreciated in Upper Burma. In Minbu, Shwebo, Meiktila and Bassein, where the poor season of the previous year or cattle-disease had caused poverty and indebtedness, a postponement of one year was allowed for the refund of advances. No difficulty is anywhere anticipated in the recovery of the total amount due. These advances may be said to be generally popular, more especially in Upper Burma, but the necessary formalities and the difficulty at times of providing sureties tend to depreciate their advantages in the minds of the cultivators.

Veterinary.

109. There was comparatively little cattle-disease throughout the Province during the year, and a marked decrease in the number of deaths. Rinderpest was much less prevalent in the Akyab district than it had been for some years past. A somewhat severe outbreak occurred in the Rathedaung township when 746 head of cattle are reported to have succumbed. In the Pegu Division there was little rinderpest except in the Pegu district, where 1,298 deaths were reported. The Irrawaddy Division was to a great extent free from serious visitations of the plague, but in the Allanmyo subdivision of the Thayetmyo district there was a somewhat severe outbreak which continued from May till October, when the disease gradually died out. In Upper Burma there were no extensive outbreaks of rinderpest throughout the year. A large amount of attention was again given to inoculation as a preventive against cattle plague. Hesitation was still shown, more particularly by natives of India, in bringing forward cattle to be treated, but there is

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good reason to hope that the prejudice will gradually disappear as the results of inoculation become better appreciated. Anthrax and foot-and-mouth disease existed in many districts throughout the year, but gave little trouble except in Bassein and Henzada, where there was an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease of a widespread and virulent type. This disease is said to have appeared for the first time in the Mogaung subdivision of the Myitkyina district in Upper Burma, where the people were at a loss to understand what had happened to their animals.

Pony and cattle breeding.

110. Three stallions, one Shan and two Sumatran, were employed for stud purposes. A fourth was purchased in March 1903 and sent to Myingyan. Eleven foals were reported as dropped by mares served by the Sumatran stallions during the year, but it is probable that there were others which were not reported by the owners. The breeding of good cattle was encouraged by Cattle Shows, which are becoming more and more appreciated. Three Shows held during the year were largely attended, and attracted many exhibitors.

The strength of the department remained unchanged.

Weather and Crops.

111. The character of the monsoon was somewhat unsatisfactory. The rainfall was capricious, untimely, and unevenly distributed. In May 1902 a cyclone swept over the Delta. This was followed by rain, inducing cultivators to begin agricultural operations earlier than usual. A break in June then withered the nurseries. In July and August the rainfall was sufficient, but breaks occurred in September, and the rains of October and November, indispensable to the success of paddy crops, failed. Generally speaking, throughout the Province, the rains set in well, the middle rains were average, and the later rains failed. In Arakan and the Delta generally heavy early rains flooded low-lying areas, while high-lying land was affected by the later drought. In Thayetmyo universal destruction was caused by the failure of rain in October and November. In Thatôn the rains were favourable up to the end of September, when they abruptly ceased. A serious shortage in the outturn of paddy was the result. Good crops were raised in Tavoy and Mergui. In Upper Burma the conditions were much the same. In Minbu in July and August there was hardly any rain, and the October rain, which is the most important, completely failed. Pakôkku experienced an unfortunate season, and in Magwe the rainfall was considerably below the average. In Mandalay the dry-weather paddy benefitted by the early rains, but the wet-weather crops were damaged by an unusually early inundation of the riverine tract. In Bhamo, while valley crops were normal, Kachin hill fields were much damaged by high winds. In Katha and Shwebo the crops promised well, but were much damaged by later drought. The Irrawaddy rose to a height which it had not reached for several years, and in Sagaing district lands long left fallow or of necessity sown with dry crops were planted with paddy. The failure of the late rains, however, marred the entire crop. In Kyauksè, Myingyan and Yamèthin the early sessamum crop was successful owing to good rain from May to the end of September, but the abrupt cessation of rain in October caused numerous crop failures, both entire and partial.

Horticulture.

Agri-Horticultural Societies.

112. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma continued to prosper. The financial position of the Society remained much the same as in the previous year. It has a large unexpended balance of Rs. 1,37,422, which will be spent in laying out the new garden at Kandawgalay, making roads and building quarters for the Superintendent. The gardens suffered considerably from a severe cyclone which destroyed many valuable trees. The demand for useful plants and seeds was larger than usual, and about 1,200 ornamental plants were distributed to members of the Society, besides economic plants and cuttings. Seeds of the Aracoda Pear (Persia Gratissima) were obtained from Ceylon, and young plants have been raised from them for distribution in Upper Burma. If successful they should prove a valuable addition to the fruits of this country.

Experimental cultivation.

113. Experimental horticulture was carried on as before in Government gardens at Myitkyina, Sima, Sinlumkaba, the Chin Hills and Katha, with varying

success. Of these, all are in the hills, except the garden at Katha. The hill gardens all produce good English vegetables, and the more hardy varieties of fruit, such as apples and pears, but peaches, plums, apricots and nectarines often fail to ripen. The garden at Katha was in its second year. It was found that the hot weather killed a large percentage of the fruit trees. The peach trees formed plenty of fruit, but it failed to mature owing to the dryness of the climate in the hot season. Vegetables did fairly well. At Taunggyi experiments with Arabian coffee and tea seed were made. The coffee promises well so far, and experiments made in a garden 1,000 feet lower were equally successful. The tea seed failed to germinate, and mostly rotted in the ground. The distribution of seed to likely localities by Government for experimental horticulture was carried on as usual. Tobacco seed, of both Havana and Virginia varieties, was distributed to a number of districts, but the result was generally unsuccessful owing in some cases to want of rain, and in others to unsuitability of soil and attacks of insects. In Thôngwa district, however, while the Virginia tobacco failed, the Havana seed was again most successful, and the cultivation is stated to have now passed the experimental stage. Seeds obtained from the experiments of the previous year were stocked by cultivators for use, and a large trade in cheroots is springing up. A consignment of 39½lbs. of American cotton seed was obtained from Philadelphia and experimented with in three districts. It failed in Meiktila owing to want of rain. In Thayetmyo the plants grew vigorously at first but bore neither fruit nor flower. In Sagaing the seed germinated, but in one township the plants withered for want of rain, and in another township, though they did better, were not quite healthy. There is available land suitable for cotton-growing in the central districts, but so far the long-stapled varieties of the Egyptian and American cotton-seed have not succeeded. The short-staple indigenous kinds on the other hand thrive well. From Kurseong (Bengal) selected tea seed was obtained and distributed in February 1903 for experimental cultivation in the Southern Shan States, Bhamo, Myitkyina, and the Ruby Mines. There are, it is believed, immense areas of land suitable for tea cultivation in the northern districts and there appears to be no reason why Burma should not, in time, enter into competition with other tea-producing countries in supplying local and even foreign demands. A supply of freshly plucked acclimatized berries of the Mocha or Arabian coffee was obtained from gardens in the neighbourhood of Rangoon in which the plants flourish and yield annually a bountiful crop of excellent seed. These were pulped by hand and parchment-dried, and sent for experiment to both Upper and Lower Burma. In the Southern Shan States and Myitkyina the sowing was completely successful and the plants are doing well; in the former place the cultivation was undertaken at altitudes of from 4,000 to 5,000 feet, and in the latter the seed was sown not far from a river bank. Steps have been taken to procure 100 ounces of the best French silkworm-eggs for experiment in the Prome, Magwe, Pakôkku, Thayetmyo and Toungoo districts, where the industry on a languishing scale already exists. If the trials should prove a success, a larger quantity of eggs will be obtained and distributed. The mulberry tree for rearing the worms is easily raised along the beds of sweet-water streams. It remains to be seen whether the native rearer of the worm will be brought to take the extra trouble and patience involved in the rearing of the French species (*Bombyx Mori*), which is an annual, as against the Burmese variety (*Bombyx Arracanensis*), which is a monthly, worker.

IV.—[illegible] AND DISTRIBUTION.

Forests.

114. The area of reserved forest in Burma at the commencement of the year was 18,607 square miles. This was increased during the year to an area of 19,709 square miles. In the Pegu Circle an area of 640 square miles remained under settlement at the close of the year. In the Tenasserim Circle the settlement of areas amounting to 248 square miles was still in progress. In Upper Burma, in the Northern and Southern Circles areas of 163 and 407 square miles respectively were still awaiting settlement at the end of the year. Area reserved.

115. The only fixed survey work carried out in the Tenasserim Circle during the year was the traverse and detail survey by No. 20 Party of the extension to the Surveys.

IV.—Production and Distribution.

Mepalè reserve in the Thaungyin division comprising an area of 45 square miles. In the Pegu Circle an area of 112 square miles was topographically surveyed, and 160 linear miles were traversed in preparation for the next season's detailed survey. In the Southern Circle of Upper Burma survey operations were carried out during the year in the Ruby Mines, Mandalay and Yaw divisions. In the Northern Circle Forest Survey detachments traversed and topographically surveyed 122 square miles in the Bhamo division, and in the Upper and Lower Chindwin and Myittha divisions No. 20 Party continued the traverse detail survey.

Working-plans.

112. A programme of working-plans operations to cover a period of five years beginning from the year 1902-03, and providing for two parties in each circle was sanctioned for the Pegu, Tenasserim, and Southern Circles; and a similar programme for four years beginning in 1903-04, was sanctioned for the Northern Circle, where the want of maps prevented the beginning of this work in 1902-03. Operations were carried out in accordance with this programme in the Rangoon and Pegu divisions of the Pegu Circle, the Shwegyin and Thaungyin divisions of the Tenasserim Circle, and in the Pyinmana and Ruby Mines divisions of the Southern Circle.

In the Pegu Circle a rough working-plan for the Alangôn and Kadônbaw fuel reserves in the Rangoon division was prepared and sanctioned, and a preliminary working-plan of the east Yoma reserve in the Thayetmyo division. Preliminary working-plans were also sanctioned for the Nahan working circle in the Ruby Mines division and for the Ela fuel reserve in the Pyinmana division.

Forest offences.

117. The numbers of forest offences in the Tenasserim, Pegu, Southern and Northern circles were 637, 802, 589 and 319 respectively. The total number of breaches of forest law was thus 2,347, as compared with 2,290 in the previous year.

Fire-protection.

118. In the Tenasserim Circle, the area which it was attempted to protect against fire was 2,296 square miles, as against 1,636 protected in the previous year. The area successfully protected was 2,034 square miles, or 88·6 per cent. of the area attempted. In the Southern Circle of Upper Burma the total area for which fire-protective measures were undertaken was 1,215 square miles, as compared with 803 square miles in the previous year. The area successfully protected showed an increase of 35 per cent. In the Northern Circle the season was unsuccessful. The area attempted to be protected was 2,162 square miles as against 1,699 in the previous year, but the percentage of failure was 33·1 as compared with 8·7 during 1901-02.

Plantations and experimental cultivation.

119. In the Tenasserim Circle the area of *taungya* plantations was increased by 896 acres. The experiments with rubber in the Mergui Rubber Plantation continued, but the season was unfavourable, and the planting and sowing were not successful. In the Pegu Circle the area of teak *taungya* plantations was extended by 1,088 acres, and that of the cutch *taungya* plantations by 909 acres during the year. In the Southern Circle a pine plantation of 13 acres which was overrun by fire was replanted with pine. The areas of teak and cutch *taungya* plantations were increased. In the Northern Circle the amount of artificial reproduction carried out during the year was very small.

Teak girdlings.

120. In the Tenasserim Circle 11,418 teak trees were girdled during the year. In the Pegu Circle there were 14,029, in the Southern Circle, 14,025, and in the Northern Circle 21,003 girdlings.

Extraction and sale of timber.

121. The total outturn of timber from the forests of the Tenasserim Circle was 1,24,440 tons, as compared with 1,21,041 tons in the previous year. In the Pegu Circle the total outturn of timber, including teak, aggregated 96,473 tons against 1,11,638 tons in 1901-02. Departmental working was confined to teak timber only, receipts being 5,858 tons more than in the previous year, owing to an increased extraction of refuse teak. Free grants of timber for works of public utility amounted to 1,558 tons with an estimated value of Rs. 10,343. In the Southern Circle of Upper Burma, the outturn of teak amounted to 45,280 tons, and that of other varieties of timber to 72,491 tons. The season was unfavourable for floating, and the outturn of all produce exported by water such as timber and bamboos, showed a decrease as compared with the previous year. In the Northern Circle the total outturn of timber amounted to 1,13,262 tons, of which

68,402 tons were teak. Other produce included 14,201 viss of India rubber, 151 tons of cutch, and 64,100 viss of *thitsi*. IV.—Exploitation and Communications. Financial results.

122. The financial results of the year's working are shown in the following statement :—

Circle.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Proportion of surplus to gross revenue.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Pegu	22,35,187	9,56,357	12,78,830	57
Tenasserim	14,66,703	7,14,233	7,52,470	51
Northern	20,38,072	7,34,052	13,04,020	64
Southern	9,97,863	5,58,674	4,39,189	44
Total for 1902-03 ...	67,37,825	29,63,316	37,74,509	56
Total for 1901-02 ...	59,51,334	28,20,311	31,31,023	53
Difference 1902-03 ...	+7,86,491	+1,43,005	+6,43,486	+3

The figures quoted in Chapter V of this report are for the financial year ending 31st March 1903; those in the above statement are for the forest year ending 30th June 1903.

123. The revenue was contributed under the following heads :— Revenue.

Particulars.	1901-02.	1902-03.	Increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(*a*) From timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency.	26,44,801	33,33,004	+ 6,88,203
From timber and other produce removed from the forests by lessees, consumers and purchasers. (*b*) Timber	24,14,755	23,53,495	— 61,260
(*c*) Firewood and charcoal ...	1,27,774	1,56,539	+ 28,765
(*d*) Bamboos and canes ...	1,87,034	1,79,225	— 7,809
(*e*) Grazing and fodder grass.	1,585	2,148	+ 563
(*f*) Other minor produce ...	70,937	1,00,991	+ 30,054
(*g*) Confiscated drift and waif wood	1,27,236	2,07,601	+ 80,365
(*h*) Duty on foreign timber and other produce ...	2,67,019	3,03,776	+ 36,757
(*i*) Miscellaneous	1,10,193	1,01,046	— 9,147
Total ...	59,51,334	67,37,825	+ 7,86,491

124. The following table gives the figures of the export of teak since 1898-99 :— Export of teak.

Year.	From Moulmein.		From Rangoon.		Total.		Average value per ton.
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1898—99 ...	66,002	56,04,701	2,02,281	1,71,44,554	2,68,283	2,27,49,255	84·78
1899—00 ...	62,983	54,84,419	2,09,303	1,73,87,530	2,72,286	2,28,71,949	84·00
1900—01 ...	64,271	55,58,616	1,83,511	1,51,11,083	2,47,782	2,06,69,699	83·42
1901—02 ...	68,752	58,27,036	1,75,768	1,51,52,339	2,44,520	2,09,79,375	85·80
1902—03 ...	66,375	56,82,637	1,63,196	1,46,40,114	2,29,571	2,03,22,751	88·52

Mines and Quarries.

IV.—Production and Distribution.

125. Despite the shorter period for collection *fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber*, exceeded the receipts of 1901-02 under this head by Rs. 11,691. This denotes a very substantial increase in the duty on petroleum, from which the greater part of the revenue is derived. The oil industry in the Akyab and Kyaukpyu districts continued in a moribund condition and less oil than ever was won during the year. The revenue from this source in Burma proper exceeded eight lakhs of rupees, the bulk of which came as heretofore from the Yenangyaung oil-field in Magwe. The new Singu field in the Myingyan district has turned out to be very promising, but no oil was exported from it during the year of report, pending the arrival of the distilling plant required to take off the naphtha, the existence of which in the oil from this field makes it dangerous to transport in flats. The Burma Oil Company continued its experimental borings in Thayetmyo district and extended its operations to Prome and beyond Pagan, but so far without success. The Rangoon Oil Company increased the output from its existing concessions. The Financial Commissioner visited the Yenangyaung, Yenangyat and Singu oil-fields during the year and directed that the large scale survey of the "Native reserves," *i.e.*, the area reserved for grant to the Burman *twinzayos* or hereditary oil-well owners at Yenangyaung should be brought and kept up to date. Most of the land in the reserves is taken up, but owing to the absence of demarcation posts and of proper maintenance of the maps it was not possible in many cases to connect well-sites with the deeds of grant under which they were held.

Petroleum.

Rubies.

126. The receipts from rubies in the Ruby Mines district amounted to Rs. 3,89,788 as compared with Rs. 3,85,876 in the previous year. The increase was due to the increased profits obtained by the Company. The year's working operations were spoiled by heavy rains in July which flooded the mines and stopped work for two months. Mainly inconsequence of this stoppage there was a decrease of Rs. 1,16,190 in the Company's receipts from native miners.

Jade.

127. Receipts from jade in Myitkyina showed a decrease of Rs. 7,116, due partly to the fact that five quarterly instalments of the license fee paid for the right to collect the jade royalty fell for collection in 1901-02 and partly to the failure to discover another ruby-pocket similar to that recently exhausted at *Nanyaseik*. As a matter of fact the receipts from jade increased owing to the improved state of affairs in China.

Gold.

128. The Kyaukpazat Gold Mining Company continued working during the year, but the reef which they were working has since been worked out. Dredging operations for gold in the Irrawaddy above Bhamo were carried on during the whole of the dry season at a spot nine miles above the town of Myitkyina. It is understood that the concessionaires intend to place more dredgers on the river during the next working season. They pay to Government a sum of Rs. 500 a year for the right to dredge for gold, as well as a royalty of 5 pent cent. on the gross value of the gold won by them. Receipts in 1902-03 amounted to Rs. 2,016. The result of experimental borings for gold by the Burma Ruby Mines Company was not successful, and the operations were abandoned in September, 1902, when the term of their prospecting license expired.

Coal.

129. The outturn of coal from the Letkôkbin collieries of the Burma Coal Mining Company, Limited, in the Shwebo district was rather larger than in the previous year. The demand is restricted to the requirements of the Burma Railways Company, who are the sole buyers.

Other minerals.

130. The tourmaline mining industry in the Ruby Mines district continued in a moribund condition. The working of mica in that district was totally abandoned. The Irrawaddy Mining Company continued to work plumbago under their lease, but for part of the year, owing to the loss of their Manager, they were obliged to leave their work at a standstill. Steatite was extracted in the Minbu district from two quarries, the total output being 15 tons, valued at Rs. 5,882. There was a slight increase in the amount of tin produced from the mines of the Tavoy and Mergui districts.

Manufactures.

131. At the 1901 Census 1,36,628 women and girls were returned as cotton-weavers, and there were probably many more to whom cotton-weaving was a subsidiary industry. Silk-carding, spinning and weaving by hand were at the census entered as the principal occupations of 5,973 men and 18,316 females. Workers in gold, silver and precious stones numbered over 42,000; the demand for work by competent men is increasing. There is also a small industry in brass work. Pottery entirely supported nearly 20,000 persons and there were also large numbers engaged in the industry who support themselves principally by agriculture or brick-making. The earthenware produced has, as a rule, little artistic merit. Brick-making, mat-weaving, the manufacture of cheroots and *ngapi*, the extraction of sessamum oil and the manufacture of salt, cutch and lacquer are all native industries of some importance. Nearly 19,000 persons were dependent on the manufacture of wooden and felt sandals, the ordinary foot-wear outside the large towns. The extraction of earth oil and its manufacture into various products employed 3,330 persons. There were 96 rice-mills and 54 saw-mills in the Province. **Principal industries.**

132. The number of factories which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, increased by two and now stands at 173. In Rangoon Town one new factory was added to the list and four were struck off. The number of rice-mills remained practically stationary. On the other hand, the number of operatives increased from 25,286 to 28,517. The Rangoon Town and Hanthawaddy districts were principally responsible for this increase. As a rule the conditions in regard to sanitation were satisfactory, but in Bassein the arrangements both in the factories proper and in the coolie lines were stated to be insanitary. No epidemics occurred during the year, and the general health of the operatives was reported to be good. The wages of operatives in factories compare favourably with those obtained in other branches of employment. It is generally reported that operatives in Burma are contented with their lot, and so long as the present state of the local labour market is maintained, there is no reason to anticipate that they will not be adequately remunerated. The total number of women and children employed is still insignificant. The conditions regulating their employment are strictly enforced, the labour on which they are employed is light, and, as they are not allowed near machinery is also, free from danger. In only one case was it found that machinery was insufficiently fenced. The number of accidents increased from 158 to 185. There were three fatal cases, all of which occurred in the works of the Burma Oil Company at Daneedaw, Rangoon. One of these cases was similar to that mentioned in the previous Report. A native employee carelessly heated a piston without first drilling holes in it, with the result that it exploded, inflicting on himself and another man injuries from the effects of which they died. The occurrence took place in spite of a warning in the Company's works in four languages forbidding the practice, and a special warning addressed to the employee personally at the time. Five prosecutions under the Act were undertaken all of which were successful. In connection with the report of the British Congress on Tuberculosis, the attention of Factory Inspectors was invited to the necessity for strictly enforcing the Rules under the Act, which tend to prevent the spread of this disease. The question of extending the Act to Upper Burma has been under consideration, but no definite steps have yet been taken. **Factories.**

Commercial Marine.

133. The number of vessels and the aggregate tonnage engaged in the sea-borne trade of the province in each of the past three years were as follows :— **Total shipping.**

	Vessels.	Tonnage.
1900-01	6,500	45,06,364
1901-02	6,455	47,17,827
1902-03	7,518	54,69,579

In 1902-03 the distribution among the chief port, *i.e.*, Rangoon, and the subordinate ports, of vessels and tonnage was as follows : Rangoon 2,806 vessels and 39,31,094 tons; subordinate ports 4,712 vessels and 15,38,485 tons.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

134. One thousand one hundred and twenty steamers and sailing vessels, with a tonnage of 20,85,936, entered from, and cleared to, foreign countries. The steamer tonnage was again 97 per cent. of the whole. No steamers left in ballast.

Foreign trade.

Of the 89 sailing vessels which entered only 72 found cargoes for foreign countries, while none left in ballast. Of the 1,120 vessels mentioned 211 were foreign, principally Austrian, German and Norwegian.

Coasting trade.

135. The number of vessels employed in the coasting trade was 3,194 with an aggregate tonnage of 17,63,189 as against 2,936 with an aggregate tonnage of 16,79,225 in 1901-02. Of these, 1,843, with a tonnage of 17,06,982, were steamers. The number of sailing vessels increased from 1,129 to 1,351, but the tonnage remained practically the same. Three thousand two hundred and four vessels of a tonnage of 16,20,454 cleared from Burma ports during the year, of which 694 vessels of 71,708 tons cleared in ballast. The Burma Oil Company commenced their own transport in tank steamers at the end of 1899 and are gradually raising a fleet of vessels of about 5,00,000 gallons capacity each. This trade is chiefly between Calcutta, Chittagong and Burma ports.

Rangoon.

136. The total entries at the port of Rangoon were 1,404, and clearances 1,402, hence there were 99 and 110 more vessels that entered and cleared with a larger tonnage of 2,28,306 and 2,54,065 respectively. Of these all but 408 with a tonnage of 68,173 were steamers. Steamers of a larger capacity were employed in the trade during the year under report.

Wrecks and casualties.

137. There were 18 accidents to vessels in the Rangoon harbour, the same number as in the previous year. In only four cases was it considered necessary to convene courts of enquiry. No casualties occurred at Akyab or the smaller ports.

Marine surveys and tidal observations.

138. Surveys were made of the Liffey Reach, the Choki Lumps, Upper Western to Lower Spit Buoy, Spit and Middle Bank Channels, part of Western Channel in the Rangoon river in addition to the regular monthly examinations of the Choki Lumps, the Hastings Sands and the Monkey Point Channels. No surveys of the Rangoon river were undertaken by the Marine Survey of India. Four new beacons were erected as also a new tide-gauge just below Syriam Point. The working of the river lights was satisfactory during the year. At Moulmein the River Survey staff issued 3 charts, 66 sketches and 92 pilot notices. Personal observations were taken by means of a tide pole daily at Moulmein. The R.I.M.S. *Investigator* was employed during the year under report surveying the Tenasserim coast.

Light-houses and Light-vessels.

139. The R.I.M.S. *Dalhousie* visited the light-houses regularly throughout the year. The light at Amherst Point was not abandoned till after the close of the year. With regard to the question of improving the dock at the Alguada Reef light-house it was decided that the site of the present dock is the most suitable one and a break-water is to be built shortly. There were 24 cases of beri-beri, of which 3 proved fatal. The receipts from light dues advanced from Rs. 3,69,916 to Rs. 4,27,123. The total receipts, including sale of condemned stores and contribution by the Port Commissioners towards the Spit light-vessel amounted to Rs. 4,33,328, being an increase of Rs. 58,651 over the figures of the previous year. The total expenditure, including Public Works Department expenditure (Rs. 9,880) other than capital, amounted to Rs. 1,45,446.

Pilot service.

140. The Rangoon Pilot Service consisted of 12 1st grade, 2 2nd grade, 1 3rd grade, 2 4th grade and 4 special pilots. The Pilot Fund opened the year with a credit balance of Rs. 1,32,287 and closed with a credit balance of Rs. 1,04,438. Rupees 5,000 were added to the reserve fund, which now stands at Rs. 62,500. The gross pilotage earnings were Rs. 2,57,330, or Rs. 10,786 better than those of the previous year. The amount disbursed to the pilots was Rs. 1,78,298. At Moulmein there were seven European pilots and two special European pilots in charge of local steamers. The gross earnings for the year were Rs. 40,588, giving an average for each 1st grade pilot of Rs. 624 a month against Rs. 596 in 1901-02. At Akyab the pilotage work was shared by three pilots. At Bassein three European, one Eurasian and one Asiatic pilot were employed.

Rangoon Port Funds.

141. The Rangoon Port Trust opened the year with a credit balance of Rs. 6,42,743. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 15,49,780 and the total expenditure to Rs. 14,36,399, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 7,56,124. The

income was about half a lakh in advance of the previous year's income. Compared with 1901-02 there was a falling off in revenue under the head Strand Bank properties, but the large increase under the head Port Department, due to vessels of larger tonnage entering the port more than compensated this loss. The expenditure included Rs. 61,885 spent on new works and Rs. 1,54,158, which were required to repair the damage done by the cyclone of May 1902. The Port Health Department cost Rs. 1,15,954, towards which Government contributed Rs. 75,938, which represents two-thirds of the cost of the plague precautionary measures. Since the close of the year, plans and estimates for sections of the new works involving expenditure aggregating nearly 40 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Government of India. IV.—Production and Distribution.

142. The total income (excluding debt accounts) of the six minor port funds amounted to Rs. 3,15,476, being an advance of Rs. 45,609 over the income of the previous year. The expenditure aggregated Rs. 3,23,118 as against Rs. 2,86,005. **Minor Port Funds.**

Sea-borne Trade.

143. The total value of the maritime trade of the province in 1902-03 amounted to Rs. 38,83,77,635, of which Rs. 37,37,66,086 represented private trade, and the balance transactions on account of Government. The aggregate value of the trade, though showing an increase of Rs. 2,69,59,049 over that of the previous year, was yet less by Rs. 2,85,38,380 than the abnormally high total of 1900-01. The normal growth in the sea-borne trade of the province was fully maintained. **General.**

144. The aggregate sea-borne trade of Rangoon, exclusive of Government transactions, with foreign countries and with Indian and Provincial ports for the past five years, is exhibited in the subjoined statement:— **Rangoon.**

	1898-99.	1899-00.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	Increase or decrease in 1902-03 as compared with 1901-02.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.—Foreign Trade.						
Imports.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Merchandise	5,40,43,202	4,74,76,568	6,73,96,259	6,07,95,269	5,80,73,378	− 27,21,891
Gold	3,08,245	2,09,584	7,39,468	6,56,428	25,79,196	+ 19,22,768
Silver	2,74,069	1,35,643	3,69,122	3,41,448	3,95,727	+ 54,279
Total Imports ...	5,46,20,516	4,78,20,795	6,85,04,849	6,17,93,145	6,10,49,301	− 7,44,844
Exports.						
Foreign merchandise re-exported ...	4,14,993	3,79,000	4,49,965	2,68,329	2,81,206	+ 12,884
Indian merchandise	8,59,83,924	7,39,12,007	7,18,36,492	8,06,09,818	11,57,18,074	+3,51,08,256
Gold	...	...	4,53,000	7,600	1,59,772	+ 1,52,272
Silver	25,000	4,295	...	...	...	...
Total Exports ...	8,64,23,917	7,42,95,302	7,27,39,457	8,08,85,610	11,61,39,052	+ 3,53,03,412
Aggregate Foreign Trade ...	14,10,44,433	12,21,16,097	14,12,44,306	14,26,78,785	17,72,37,353	+ 3,45,58,568
II.—Coasting Trade.						
Imports.						
Indian produce	4,23,69,252	4,07,05,379	4,58,89,520	4,55,52,370	5,09,10,734	+ 53,58,364
Foreign merchandise	29,67,149	31,52,652	28,72,905	25,00,457	30,71,964	+ 5,71,507
Gold	2,32,237	...	41,090	94,679	...	− 94,679
Silver	8,78,678	70,68,890	6,08,021	17,28,211	4,65,951	− 12,62,260
Total Imports ...	4,64,37,316	5,09,26,921	4,94,11,536	4,98,75,717	5,44,48,649	+ 45,72,932
Exports.						
Indian produce	2,81,45,476	6,14,57,946	8,45,32,699	5,80,16,796	4,49,77,723	− 1,30,39,073
Foreign merchandise	65,77,262	65,62,936	77,43,321	72,77,889	82,23,151	+ 9,45,262
Gold	90,500	87,814	44,840	35,500	1,14,100	+ 78,600
Silver	1,19,290	24,46,540	3,34,829	4,01,453	18,38,773	+ 14,37,320
Total Exports ...	3,50,32,528	7,05,55,236	9,26,55,689	6,57,31,638	5,51,53,747	−1,05,77,891
Aggregate Coasting Trade ...	8,14,69,844	12,14,82,157	14,20,67,225	11,56,07,355	10,96,02,396	− 60,04,959
Aggregate Trade ...	22,25,14,277	24,35,98,254	28,33,11,531	25,82,86,140	28,68,39,749	+2,85,53,609

The increase of the year under review amounted to more than 11 per cent. over the aggregate trade of the previous year.

145. Imports represented 33·36 per cent. of the aggregate value of the foreign trade of Rangoon. Cotton goods formed a proportion of 29·90 per cent. of the total imports, followed in the order of their importance by metals, provisions, silk **Imports.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

goods, liquors, machinery and millwork, hardware and cutlery, sugar, apparel, and woollen goods. There was a decline in the trade under apparel due to over-importation during the two preceding years. Imports of cotton goods were affected by the same cause, but higher cost prices kept up the total value of the importations. The comparatively small stock of English coal that remained in hand at the close of the preceding year, combined with cheap freights, and a fall in prices in the home market, led to increased supplies from the United Kingdom. There was little demand for Australian and Japan coal owing to larger supplies from India. There was a decrease in the imports of metals as regards both quantity and value. Imports of the kerosene oil from the United States decreased considerably, owing partly to heavy stocking. The Russian supply has ceased entirely. Importations of foreign salt increased by some 1,800 tons, but prices were lower and the total value of the imports decreased. Trade in woollens and other mixed goods from Europe again declined, the total value of the imports being less than half of the average for the three years from 1898-99 to 1900-01.

Coasting trade.

146. In the coasting trade there was an increase of nearly Rs. 1,00,000 in the value of imports of Bengal coal. There was a large increase of more than 11 lakhs in the value of imports of Indian cotton manufactures. Gunny bags, hardware and oils all showed a satisfactory improvement. The value of Indian silk imported fell from Rs. 13,37,986 to Rs. 9,86,443.

Exports.

147. Exports represented 66·64 per cent. of the aggregate value of the foreign trade of Rangoon during the year. Rice formed 83·25 per cent. of the total value. A considerable increase took place in the export of cotton, owing to the large requirements of Japan. There was a good trade in cutch of an improved quality. The export trade in hides was active. Exports of rice rose to Rs. 9,65,80,809. The large demand on account of the Indian famine had ceased, but was compensated for by increased requirements from the Far East. Japan and China took enormous supplies. Shipments to Europe, also, aggregated one-third more than in the previous year. Exports of teak showed a slight decline.

Coasting trade.

148. In the coasting trade cutch, gram, and lac showed substantial increases, but exports of hides and pulse declined. There was less demand for Burma rice in India, the famine having disappeared. Exports of oils reached the record total of Rs. 1,19,77,410. The Burma Oil Company commenced their own transport in tank steamers at the end of 1899, and are raising a fleet of vessels with a capacity of about 500,000 gallons each. The trade is chiefly with Calcutta and Chittagong.

Other ports.

149. The aggregate value of the private trade of the subordinate ports of Burma during the year was Rs. 8,69,26,337 as compared with Rs. 6,95,89,676 in the previous year. The principal increase was in the exports of rice, the value of which rose from Rs. 2,16,59,012 to Rs. 3,60,55,364. The coasting trade declined by 5·32 per cent.

Inland Trade.

Value.

150. The total value of the trade, as compared with the previous year, decreased by 13·38 per cent; the decrease in imports being 10·19 per cent. and in exports 16·94. The total value amounted to Rs. 3,09,55,000; Western-China contributing Rs. 59,97,400, Northern Shan States Rs. 93,29,000, Southern Shan States Rs. 78,98,300, Southern Siam Rs. 7,15,100, Northern Siam Rs. 40,20,000 and Karenni Rs. 29,95,100.

Western China.

151. There was a decrease in the trade with Western China on the previous year's figures of 33·15 per cent. but the figures for 1901-02 are supposed to have been higher than the reality. The decline through Myitkyina was due chiefly to raids by Chinese Kachins, which made the routes beyond the border insecure, to the fall in the value of Chinese silver bullion, and to the poorness of the fruit harvest in Western Yünnan and of the sessamum crop in the Kachin villages along the border. Imports through Bhamo decreased by 41 per cent. and exports by 26 per cent. The principal causes of the decrease are said to be the cessation of the operations of the Black flags, which last year diverted trade to Bhamo, and to the illegal exactions of certain likin officials in Hsiakuan, the commercial suburb of Talifu, in respect of trade covered by Manwaing transit passes. Trade by the Maymyo route also declined, imports by 39 per cent. and exports by 54 per cent.

The decline is attributed to high rates on the Mandalay-Kunlôn railway, and to the depredations of a notorious dacoit who has taken up his residence near the Kunlôn ferry in Sumu territory. Exports of raw cotton showed a satisfactory increase of over a lakh. Statistics for the Myothit route are, owing to fabrication by registering clerks, unreliable. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

152. Imports from the Northern Shan States increased by 23·52 per cent., exports declined by 12·84 per cent. Increased demand and facilities for transport afforded by the railway caused a large increase in rail-borne tea imported from the States. Timber floated down the Shweli contributed over 5 lakhs towards the increase. Importation of ponies, poultry, pigs, rice and silver by the Bhamo, Kyaukpyu and Maugôn routes showed a considerable decrease. The total value of the trade with the Southern Shan States was 10 lakhs less than the preceding year. There was a heavy fall of about 15 lakhs by the Pyawbwè, Langwa, Pyinmana and Theingôn routes. The reasons for the decline were last year's drought in the dry zone, increased cultivation in Burma of produce such as chillies, turmeric, garlic, etc., which was formerly brought down from the States at a profit, and, chiefly, the want of cheap means of transport between the States and Burma. **Shan States.**

153. The disturbed State of Northern Siam during the year adversely affected trade. In the trade with Southern Siam, the greatest fall in imports was in cattle and raw silk. Exports showed a general decline. The total value of trade with Northern Siam, including timber, showed a decline of 21·70 per cent. The fall in imports was due to decreased importation of cattle, teak and silver. Elephant stealing seriously hampered teak operations. Salween teak declined by over 4½ lakhs. **Siam.**

154. An increase by 15·40 per cent. in the import traffic from Karenni was due to the clearance of a larger number of teak logs from the Kado duty station of Moulmein. **Karenni.**

Public Works.

155. In the Northern Shan States Division 3 half-company barracks were built at Maymyo, with materials obtained from old buildings at Mandalay, for the British troops which are to be located at Maymyo to test the suitability of the climate there for such troops. The work of clearing, draining and constructing roads on the site selected for a Cantonment for British troops at this station was completed and the mains for a pipe water-supply were laid and work was in hand. **Military Works.**

In the Mandalay division the work of improving the defences of Fort Dufferin was completed.

In the Thayetmyo Division the wash-houses attached to the British Infantry barracks at Thayetmyo were provided with wrought iron tanks and pipes with cocks. Pumps were also provided to three wells in the British Infantry lines.

In the Rangoon Construction Division the following works, begun in the past year, were completed at Rangoon :—

(1) Quarters for 11 harbour and coast defence lascars at the headquarters of the Royal Garrison Artillery.
(2) Institute and liquor bar for the Royal Garrison Artillery.
(3) Station Family Hospital for British troops.
(4) Mess-house for British Infantry Officers.

Besides the above, the following new works were completed at Rangoon :—

(1) Quarters for two subalterns on the north and south sides of the British Infantry Officers' Mess.
(2) Pipe water-supply for the Arsenal from the Municipal high pressure reservoir.
(3) Semi-permanent barracks for the Cantonment Police on Voyle road.

Three barracks for the Royal Garrison Artillery at Rangoon were under construction.

CIVIL WORKS—CIVIL BUILDINGS.

156. A new Forest office was begun at Shwegyin ; it will replace an old Native Infantry barrack at present used for the purpose. Permanent quarters and an office for the Deputy Conservator of Forests at Maymyo and a Forest office at Myitkyina were completed. A tannin factory was constructed at the Forest **Forest.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Depôt at Ahlone (Rangoon) and a tube well sunk in the compound of the Forest School at Tharrawaddy.

Customs.

157. A combined customs office and godown was completed at Mergui. Improvements to and renewal of the corrugated-iron roofing of the bonded warehouse attached to the Customs Buildings at Rangoon were commenced.

Post Offices.

158. A combined post and telegraph office was completed at Taikkyi and post offices at Maymyo and at Kampetlet in the Pakôkku Chin Hills. Materials were collected for combined post and telegraph offices at Pyinmana, Kyaikto and Kamaing.

Telegraphs.

159. The telegraph office at Myitkyina, begun in the past year, was completed.

Administration.

160. Additional plant was ordered for the electric light installation at Government House, Rangoon. At Maymyo a wire fence was erected to enclose all grounds attached to Government House and the Camp clerk's quarters were completed. Quarters for the Assistant Superintendent, Pakôkku Chin Hills, as also a courthouse, were completed at Kampetlet. Quarters for the Superintendents of Land Records were completed at Henzada and Meiktila and practically completed at Thayetmyo. Land Records offices were completed at Sagaing and practically completed at Thayetmyo. The Survey School and Land Records office at Mônywa was completed. At Môgok quarters for the Treasury Officer were completed. The reroofing of the Commissioner's court-house at Moulmein was finished. A new court-house and office for the Commissioner at Akyab was completed. Record-rooms were completed at Myingyan, Mônywa and Taunggyi, were in progress at Kindat and begun at Katha. Treasure-vaults were completed at nine stations and were under construction at three stations. Opium shops were completed at 41 stations. At Falam barracks for muleteers and a paddy store and stables for transport mules of the Political Department were put in hand. At Taunggyi materials were collected for the construction of quarters for eight peons of the office of the Superintendent and Political Officer.

Minor Departments.

161. At Mandalay the *Hlut-daw* throne in the palace was dismantled and transhipped to the Calcutta Museum. The restoration of *pyatthats* over two gates and one corner and four intermediate flanking bastions of Fort Dufferin was half finished. Certain buildings which were to be removed from the palace platform have been dismantled and the interior of the palace has been largely restored. Repairs were undertaken to four Pagodas and a Temple which are of archæological interest at Pagan.

Educational.

162. Additions and improvements to the school for sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi were completed; the building is now occupied. A Government Anglo-Vernacular School for boys was begun at Thazi. At Mandalay a site was selected for a Government Normal School. Mansfield's oil gas apparatus was supplied for the laboratories, etc., in the Rangoon College and new Sergeant's quarters completed. The buildings comprising the Government Engineering School at Insein were improved and a barrack for 20 boys, wash-house, play ground, workshed and fencing of the whole compound completed.

Ecclesiastical.

163. Work on the Protestant Church at Mandalay was not resumed during the year. A new cemetery was under construction at Magwe and the walls of the Moulmein cemetery were raised.

Law and Justice.

164. New permanent quarters for the Deputy Commissioner at Mônywa were put in hand and for the Deputy Commissioner at Akyab the dâk bungalow was purchased from the Municipality and will be converted into a residence. The Civil Subdivisional Officer's court-house at Sadôn and the township court-house at Kamaing were completed. A combined Subdivisional and Myoôk's court-house was practically completed at Maymyo and another was under construction at Allanmyo. The work of providing additional accommodation in the District court-house at Moulmein progressed. Improvements to the District court-house at Toungoo were completed and additions and alterations to the one at Shwebo practically completed. The District court-house at Myitkyina was altered to make it defensible. At Mandalay a carriage shed was erected for the convenience of all attending the District court. Materials were collected for District court-houses at Sagaing and Katha. The court-house at Taungdwingyi was altered to suit requirements of Civil Officers. Myoôks' court-houses were completed at six stations and begun at three stations.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Jails.

165. Additions and alterations to the cook-house, Myingyan jail, were completed and the water-supply to the jail garden improved. The extension of the granary and conversion of a work-shed into a cook-house, Toungoo jail, were completed and the old wards of the jail improved. Steam-cooking apparatus was provided for both the above jails. The new jail at Mergui was practically completed; and the site for the new jail at Moulmein was cleared. A jail for 100 prisoners was begun at Mogôk. Warders' quarters in the Pagan and Shwegyin jails were completed. An additional boiler and pump were provided for the steam-cooking apparatus at the Insein jail and ordered for the Rangoon jail. Additional exits to sleeping wards in the latter jail were completed. The extension of a work-shed, hospital, ward for 18 females and 10 solitary cells in the Myaungmya jail was completed.

Police.

166. Quarters were practically completed for the District Superintendent of Police at Shwebo; commenced for the District Superintendent of Police at Mônywa; completed for the Assistant Superintendent of Police at Paletwa; and were under construction for a Subdivisional Police officer at Minhla. At Moulmein quarters were begun for the Headquarters Inspector and completed for the European Inspector attached to Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Division Police Stations, as also for the men at No. 4 Division Police Station; at Pegu quarters were completed for a European Head Constable or Burman Inspector; at An for an Inspector. Permanent quarters were built for an Inspector, as also for the men at the depôt and training school, at Thayetmyo; semi-permanent quarters for the Civil Police were under construction at Yenangyaung; quarters for nine married men and an Inspector were completed at Sandoway; additional barracks were constructed at Athègyi and Myothit (Bassein Town); for the Rangoon Town Police quarters were completed for an Inspector at the Kemmendine training depôt; accommodation was completed for the Mandalay Town Police; additional quarters were started at Pyawbwè; the *wagat* roofs of the Civil Police buildings at Yamèthin were replaced by shingles and additional accommodation provided in the lines. Offices for the District Superintendents of Police were in hand at Katha and Sagaing; a police office was also constructed at Paletwa. A site was acquired for a first class police station and barracks at Toungoo; police stations or thanas were completed at 16 stations and were in progress at nine stations; two police stations were improved; certain additions to the lock-up at Taunggyi were completed. Quarters were completed for the Battalion Commandant at Shwebo and for the Assistant Battalion Commandant at Pakôkku. The office of the Adjutant, Military Police, at Rangoon, was extended and materials collected for an office for the Battalion Commandant at Bhamo. Stables to accommodate 20 Walers were put in the Military Police lines at Rangoon. Collection of materials for the Military Police barracks, Kèngtūng, progressed slowly pending a decision regarding a new site. Barracks for four companies of Military Police at Magwe, as also quarters for 11 married men at Minbu, progressed fairly well. Temporary quarters for a company of Military Police at Loilem and barracks for half a company at Kampetlet were completed. The work of dismantling the old Native Infantry barracks and reconstructing them on another site for the Military Police at Moulmein approached completion. The mat walling of the Military Police lines at Pegu was replaced by weather-boarding. Semi-permanent quarters for married Military Police at Mandalay, additional quarters for married men at Sandoway and 20 permanent quarters for Native Officers at Mandalay Shore were completed. The reconstruction of Military Police buildings at Lashio was nearly completed. Additions to fortifications of and buildings within Fort Morton, Sima, were completed and temporary barracks built at Sima for 50 recruits. At Myitkyina the Military Police hospital was extended and other works completed. Temporary barrack accommodation was completed at Shwebo and semi-permanent lines nearly completed at Katha. At Ywataung materials were collected for a barrack for eight married men in the Railway Police training depôt. A barrack for Chin Police was completed at Kampetlet. Buildings for the Military Police at Homalin were taken in hand. Barracks for the Military Police were completed at Maulmaingyun, Buthidaung, Minbya, Myohaung and Kyauktaw. The reconstruction of the Military Police post at Thamanthi was completed; posts at Haungpa and Maing-

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

kaing were in course of construction; the post at Momeit, which was burnt down, was rebuilt; outposts at Kutkai, Waingmaw, Talawgyi, Lepeye, Naphaw, Pungkham, Lweje, Warrabum and Alawpum were completed. Rifle ranges for the Military Police at Mogôk and Mandalay were partially executed; the one at Bhamo was remodelled and improved; and a two-section range at Shwebo was half finished.

Medical.

167. Quarters were completed for the Civil Surgeon at Sagaing and for the Nurses of the Dufferin Hospital at Rangoon. Civil hospitals were completed at Pyawbwè, Pauk, Minhla and Amherst, nearly completed at Maymyo and commenced at Kyaukpadaung. At Sinbo a temporary hospital was completed. The civil hospital at Myitkyina was removed and re-erected on a new site. At Meiktila a Vaccine depôt was begun and the dispensary attached to the Civil hospital extended. Additions and alterations to the civil hospitals at Homalin and Magwe progressed. Materials were collected for a Municipal hospital at Thatôn. At Danubyu a dispensary was completed. At Kemmendine, near Rangoon, a masonry ward for 20 lepers progressed.

Miscellaneous.

168. A permanent residence for the Executive Engineer at Toungoo progressed and for the Executive Engineer at Akyab quarters were completed. Additions and alterations were carried out to the Public Works Department Subdivisional Officer's quarters at Minbu and materials collected for similar quarters at Kawkareik. Permanent quarters for the Accountant attached to the Executive Engineer's office, Shwebo, were completed. The Public Works Department clerks' quarters at Maymyo were completed, and out-houses and latrines for clerks and menials were provided for the offices of the three Superintending Engineers. Improvements were made to the Executive Engineer's office at Taunggyi; the Executive Engineer's office at Myitkyina was dismantled and re-erected in a more substantial style; and an office for the Executive Engineer at Myaungmya progressed. Electric fans and lights were fitted in the New Public Offices at Rangoon and the foundations of the wings of the building were commenced. Circuit-houses were completed at Mandalay, nearly completed at Maymyo and Bhamo and begun at Katha; the one at Meiktila was improved. The old Deputy Commissioner's court-house at Thayetmyo was converted into a circuit-house and the old circuit-house into a dâk bungalow. Land was acquired for a Public Works Department inspection bungalow at Sagaing. At the Dalla Dockyard new quarters for the gunner were completed and six barracks for coolies and Chinese carpenters progressed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Metalled roads.

169. The roads from Hlègu to Paunggyi and Penwègôn railway station to Ananbaw were in progress, some bridges and metalling being still required. The Pegu-Tandawgyi road was begun, materials for bridges collected and about 3 miles of embankment completed. The cart road from Nyaunglèbin to Pyuntaza was completed and opened to traffic. The re-construction of the bridge over the Hlègu river at Hlègu, Pegu-Thaukyan road, to replace a very old timber bridge, was in progress. Temporary inspection bungalows at Pyinbôngyi and Tôngyi were replaced by permanent buildings and the construction of permanent bungalows at Ananbaw, Paunggyi and Nyaungone was in progress. Work progressed on the Thittabwe-Yenangyaung-Twingôn road. A cart road from Kywèbwè railway station to the Sittang river was completed. Work was started on the construction of the 1st section of the road from Tantabin to Bônmadi. The re-construction of the inspection bungalow at Pathichaung was completed and the construction of the cart road from Pathichaung to Thandaung was well in hand. Work proceeded on the cart road from Kyidaw railway station to the Toungoo Frontier road. Metal was collected on the latter road, as well as on the Ôngbin-Ôktwin road. Metalling and improving the 1st section of the Toungoo-Thandaung road, *i.e.*, as far as Pathichaung, made good progress. The Thazi-Taunggyi road progressed favourably. Inspection bungalows were completed at Hlinedet, Wetpyuyè and Thamakan. The construction of new roads and the metalling of existing ones in Taunggyi station made good progress; as also did the extension of the Taunggyi-Wampon cart road from Wampon to Takaw.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

A bridge over the Shweguchaung, on the Tavoy-Sinbyubin road, was under construction and materials were collected for an additional bridge in the 4th mile of the Tavoy-Yebyu road. The construction of the 2nd section of the Moulmein-Kyaikmaraw road made good progress.

An inspection bungalow was half finished at Wapyudaung on the Ruby Mines road.

About 1½ miles of the Mandalay-Lashio road were raised in class to afford suitable communication between the station of Maymyò and the new Military camping ground.

The metalling of some of the town roads in Mogaung was nearly completed. The town roads in Myitkyina were completed, but, as the town is increasing, more roads are being asked for.

The metalling of the Circular Road, Bhamo, was two-thirds finished. The Viceroy's road, from end of town to Bhamo Steamer ghât, was put in hand. On the first 17¾ miles of the 1st section, Chinese Frontier road, metal was laid down and consolidated to mile 9½.

A road to connect the Civil and Military Police lines, rifle-ranges and Sudder bazaar, begun in the past year, was completed.

The Yegyo-Mahlaing feeder road was completed. The Pyinmana-Lèwè road was provided with a new 6-inch coat of metal. Three bridges and three-fourths of the earthwork on the Ela-Lèwè road, required to connect Lèwè with the railway, were completed.

The road connecting Yinmabin with Mônywa (Tandaw) was completed, as also the road from Mônywa to Kyaukka in the 10th mile of the Mônywa-Magyizauk road.

Roads from Taungup to Wetchet and from Sainchon to Pyade were completed.

Unmetalled roads.

170. The metalled foot-paths from Thanatpin to Kamasè and Zaynyaungbin to Tawa require some more metal collection before consolidation can be carried out. The Kawa-Ohnè road was practically completed.

Earthwork and bridges were completed on the Pènwègôn-Thambyagon road.

The construction of a circular road at Thandaung, to give access to the various house sites, progressed.

The bridle path from the Sittang river to Kyonkyi was completed, as also the one from Yedashe to Kyweaingbyin. Surveys for cart roads from Karenchaung to Nancho and Shwegin to Kyonkyi were practically completed and that from Pathichaung to Thandaung completed. Renewal of bridges on the Toungoo Frontier road was completed.

The cart road from Taunggyi to Napôk was well in hand. Inspection bungalows were completed at Hopon and Möng Pawn and the one at Htamsang was in progress.

The 2nd and 3rd sections of the cart road from Kawkareik to Myawaddy were in progress, the Longlôn-Zalut road was practically completed and the bridle path from Wagaru to Yè was in progress. The tracing of a road from Natkyizin to Hogan was completed.

Progress on the Yenyin-Kyetwethaung road was slow for want of funds.

The first 9 miles of the 1st section of the Pa-an Hlaingbwè road were completed, an inspection bungalow built at Tilon and the construction of the remaining 5 miles commenced; on the 2nd section 8 miles of jungle were cleared and some materials collected for bridges. The construction of the Pa-an-Duyinzeik road was commenced and most of the earthwork for the higher embankments completed. On the Martaban-Kyaikto road masonry demarcating pillars were completed and drains cut; metal was also collected where traffic is heavy and masonry culverts completed in place of causeways.

Work on the Salin-Sedôktaya road made good progress.

An alignment with survey and section for a cart road from Mogôk to the Hsipaw border, near Mainlong was completed.

The suspension bridge over the Namtu river, on the Lashio-Kutkai road, was completed.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

An alignment with survey and sections for cart road from Waingmaw to a point near Loignu out-post and from Mogaung to Kamaing, along the right bank of the river, were respectively completed and half finished. The Waingmaw-Kazu road, the Hopin-Lonton road, the Pungataung-Loignu road, the Kamaing-Nanyaseik road, all begun in the previous year, were completed. The temporary bridges on the Mogaung-Kamaing mule road were all replacedby bet ter bridges.

A graded mule track from Kazu to Sima was practically completed. The alignment and survey of a graded mule road from Kamaing to Mamon was carried on in the open season and nearly completed.

The last 12 miles of the 1st section, Chinese Frontier road, were completed.

The whole of the 2nd section, 21 miles, was opened to mule traffic. The 1st section of the Kulongkha-Nampoung branch road, as far as the Taping river, was practically completed and the 2nd section, with the exception of two timber bridges, was also finished.

A road from Namkan railway station to Padingôn was completed. On the Wuntho-Singôn and Kawlin-Singôn roads metal already collected was consolidated and some more collected. The Mohnyin-Bulumyo road was begun. The little work remaining over from the past year on the Myindaw-Yatha road was completed.

The road from Thazi towards Nyaungyan neared completion. Three 50′ bridges below the Nyaungyan-Minhla lake were completed. Improvements and additional bridging on the Nyaungyan-Patsobyu road were practically done and on the Myingyan-Natogyi road were completed. Materials for bridging the Ywawe-Kume road were collected; this road will connect Ywawe with the Kyauksè-Samôn road, ending at the Samôn river.

Improvements to the Palè-Yinmabin road, including construction of bridges, were completed.

Other roads.

171. A road from Pakaungyi to Pakannge was completed. The construction of a groyne on the north side of the west approach of the Shwechaung bridge at Pakôkku to protect the bridge approach was completed. The construction of stone revetments and causeways and timber bridges, as also inspection bungalows, was in progress on the Saw-Kawton road. A 61 mule track from Mindat-Sakan to Kampetlet was well advanced. Improvements to the inspection bungalows on the Saw-Kyetchedaung road were in hand. Construction and renewal of bridges on the Pakôkku-Kan road were in progress. The survey for a road from Pauk to Yawdwin, *vid* Kyaukka and Man, was commenced.

Stables for mules and barracks for muleteers were completed at halting stages on the Falam-Indin and Haka-Kalemyo roads and on the branch road to Tiddim. A permanent inspection bungalow at Dimlo, to replace the one burnt down, was commenced.

A road from Sandoway to Kyeintali, 40 miles in length, was commenced.

Improvements to the Karenchaung-Nancho road progressed.

The Mergui-Sandawut road was surfaced with gravel and the Mergui-Sandawut-Kywegu road was completed.

Earthwork and bridge work progressed on the bridle paths connecting Papun with Bilin, Dagwin and Kamamaung.

Improvements to the mule road between Takaw and Kēngtūng progressed and five inspection bungalows thereon were completed. The survey for re-alignment of this mule road was completed and the project is under preparation.

Under the supervision of the Civil authorities, the system of "Pioneer roads" in the Myitkyina division, proposed to be opened out in the previous year, was completed.

The system of "Pioneer roads" in the Bhamo division was four-fifths completed. Fifteen miles of new and modified alignments were also made in these roads. The bridges on the Bhamo-Sikaw road were renewed and added to.

Land was acquired, alignments demarcated and jungle cleared on the following roads, which have been designed to serve the irrigated area below the Shwebo Canal, now under construction—Myindaw to Yatha, Yatha to Toungoo, Yatha to Hladaw, Wetlet to Shwegwe, Moksogyon to Halingyi, Moksogyon to Myintha, Myintha to Shwebo, Shwebo to Tebin and Myingatha to Nyaungbintha.

A fair-weather road from Pyinthazeik to Panmanchaung was nearly completed. IV.—PRODUCTIVE AND DISTRIBUTION.

The section in the Chin Hills of the Falam-Fort Aijal road was nearly completed. The survey and construction of a 4-foot mule track from Mindat-Sakan to Khrum, for rationing purposes in the Pakôkku Chin Hills, was well advanced.

Six bridges were rebuilt on the Naaf-Myu road.

A bridge over the Gyan *chaung* on the Kanaung-Kanyingu road was commenced.

Progress was made in improving the Henzada-Myanaung road and the berm road along the Ma-ubin embankment.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

172. The Railway towns at Thazi, Thedaw and Myittha were extended and new roads laid out. A protective bund east of the civil station, Kindat, and construction of station roads at Yinmabin were completed. Improvements to Towns.

173. Good progress was made on the construction of a bazaar at Thanatpin. The roof of a bazaar at Nyaunglebin was ventilated. Improvements to the Hlegu bazaar were commenced. A new bazaar was constructed at Kanyutkwin in place of the one burnt down in 1902. The main bazaar building at Yedashè neared completion. A fish bazaar at Daunggyi and a dry fish bazaar at Kyauktaw were completed. Markets.

174. The Railway town roads of Pyuntaza, Penwègôn, Paungdawthi, Deiku, Peinzalôk and Kyauktaga were demarcated with iron boundary pillars. Paving and streets.

175. The improvements to the water-supply of Thandaung were completed; a combined bridge and weir were built impounding a sheet of water now known as "Kingsmere." The drainage of the plateau valley and water-supply to the town and station of Maymyo were completed. Good progress was made in the Hlawga water-supply scheme, which will provide a suitable and sufficient supply for the town of Rangoon. The dams which enclose the storage basin are 7 miles in length, broken at short intervals by high-ground. The drainage area is 11 square miles. Water-supply.

176. The construction of a pontoon at Kyetwethaung was practically completed. A wharf at Victoria Point and a landing stage at Sunbyubin were begun. Landing stages were completed at Zagaing and Padali. Harbours.

177. A new light-house on Green Island and quarters for staff, etc., were nearly completed. Preliminary local works, such as causeway, boat docks, permanent quarters for native staff, masonry tank for storage of water-supply, etc., required in connection with the proposed Beacon Island Light-house, were practically completed. Work on the construction of the Eastern Jetty at Beacon Island was in progress; and the screw-piled beacon on Oyster Reef was completed. Light-houses.

178. At Maymyo materials were collected for a travellers' bungalow. At Seikpyu (Pakôkku district) a Public Works Department inspection bungalow was taken in hand. Accommodation for travellers.

Railways.

179. The length of line open to all descriptions of traffic on the 31st March 1903 was 1,342·95 as compared with 1,177·7 miles open at the end of the previous year. Length of line.

The increase is due to—

	Miles.
(*a*) The opening of the Lashio Branch from Hsipaw to Lashio on the 1st March 1902	50·30
(*b*) The opening of the Henzada to Bassein line on the 15th December 1902 ...	82·25
(*c*) The opening of the Letpadan to Henzada line on the 20th March 1903 ...	32·15
(*d*) Double mileage of a portion of Katha Branch now shown as single mileage	0·55
Total ...	165·25

180. With the opening of these branches all work under construction was completed and no new construction has been sanctioned. Works in progress.

The survey of the Southern Shan States line from Nyaunggyan to Sang Hai (near Taunggyi) was completed and a survey from Prome to Taungup connecting Arakan with Rangoon was in progress.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

181. On the 3rd July 1902 there was a breach at mile 403-20A on the Sagaing-Alôn branch owing to heavy rain. Communication was restored after two days.

Accidents.

On the 18th April 1902 No. 1 up mail collided with a down goods special at Thawutti station owing to the driver of the mail running against signals. Two children were killed and two Burman third-class passengers severely injured.

Capital transactions.

182. The capital outlay on the Burma Railway system during 1902-03 was Rs. 58,11,768. The total capital expenditure since the commencement has been Rs. 12,86,27,347, out of which the outlay by Government has been Rs. 7,69,12,324.

Revenue transactions.

183. The gross earnings of the year compared with 1901-02 were—

	Rs.
During 1902-03	1,26,52,384
During 1901-02	1,21,73,931
Or a net increase of ...	4,78,453

The working expenses compare as under—

During 1902-03	78,32,355
During 1901-02	73,84,035
Or a net increase of ...	4,48,320

The net earnings were as under—

During 1902-03	48,20,029
During 1901-02	47,89,896
Or a net increase of ...	30,133

Traffic and working.

184. There was an increase of 39·13 miles in the mean mileage worked during 1902-03 due to the opening from the 20th December 1902 and the 1st and 20th March 1903 respectively of the Bassein to Henzada, Hsipaw to Lashio and Henzada to Letpadan sections of the Letpadan-Henzada-Bassein and Lashio Branch Railways. The train-mileage increased from 3,621,043 to 3,860,434, the average earnings per mile per week from Rs. 200·34 to Rs. 201·47 and the percentage of expenses to earnings from Rs. 60·65 to 61·90. The capital outlay on open line to the end of the year rose from Rs. 11,11,50,015 to Rs. 12,86,27,347, but the percentage of net receipts to capital outlay on open line decreased from 4·36 to 3·84 and the average earnings per train mile from Rs. 3·36 to Rs. 3·28.

Tramways.

185. The total length of the Rangoon Tramways track during the year was, as in the previous year, 8,573 feet of double line and 22,199 feet of single line, no extensions having been made to it. The total number of passengers carried was 3,03,344, the running mileage being 2,37,245, while receipts for the 12 months ending June 1903 amounted to Rs. 2,36,024-14-6. In Mandalay the Tramway Company started construction operations in December, and 10½ miles of line had been laid by the end of July 1903. The line is not yet open for traffic.

Irrigation.

General.

186. There were no changes during the year in the number of divisions, that is, the Irrigation Circle still comprised three Executive divisions, one temporary Survey division and one Independent subdivision. Another subdivision was, however, added to the Shwebo Canal division, which then contained three full subdivisions for construction.

IMPERIAL—PRODUCTIVE WORKS.

Mandalay Canal—General.

187. The main canal was completed in the previous year, as designed. During the flood season, 1902, it was evident that provision of two more drainage crossings was advisable and the construction of a superpassage and a syphon was undertaken. The principal construction work, however, comprised the completion of the distributaries and the watercourse systems from them. Water was admitted into the canal and irrigation allowed from four distributaries which were ready in time for

the irrigating season. To permit of safe and satisfactory working of the canal during the flood season, the Divisional office in Mandalay was connected with the head works, Sedaw, by telephone, the wires being erected by the Telegraph Department mainly along the canal, a distance of 45 miles, and telephone instruments being provided at five stations. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

188. It was decided to raise the foot bridge over the undersluices and the winches of the needle girders, to allow a clear passage to drift timber and trees; the plans have been prepared and material collected, but work will be carried out in the next cold weather. Quarters for an Upper Subordinate and barracks for regulating establishment were completed. **Head works.**

189. The inadequacy of the syphon at the 20th mile to pass all the drainage brought to it from the Shan hills was proved for the second time and it was decided to build a superpassage, with 43 feet waterway, about 4,000 feet below the syphon and to deliver the drainage into the outfall channel below the 20th mile syphon, which was deepened and extended and passed under the Lundaung distributary by a syphon of 4 bays of 10 feet. These works were about half completed. **Drainage crossings.**

An additional syphon of 3 bays of 10 feet was built at R.D. 28½ miles, where the canal passes close to the Shan hills. The old Burmese irrigation canals, the Shwelaung and Dinga *chaungs*, with other smaller channels, which act as catch-water drains, were diverted by drainage cuts and the drainage conveyed along their natural courses to the Irrawaddy river.

190. Two additional wooden bridge crossings were allowed across the canal. **Bridges.**

191. A new inspection house was erected at Sauktawa, in the centre of the irrigating district, south of Mandalay. **Buildings.**

192. Thirteen distributaries, with a total length of 90 miles, were constructed. The watercourse systems from these distributaries were in hand for a total length of 202 miles, of which 120 miles were completed. There is one distributary remaining, which is still under survey. **Distributaries.**

193. Work was pushed on in the construction of the main canal and two branches. With the exception of the head works, one masonry regulator and one small drainage syphon, the main canal was practically completed by the end of the year. The surveys for the alignments of all the distributaries from the main canal were in hand. **Shwebo Canal—General.**

194. The area occupied by the undersluices in the bed of the river was enclosed in with bunds, pumped out and excavated. All the well foundations in the undersluices were put in and one-fourth the concrete slab under the floor and one-fourth the pitching up and down stream were completed by the end of the financial year. Nearly all the materials, except cut stone, were at site. The construction of the canal head regulator was practically completed, only the fixing of the regulating gates and the upper part of the superstructure and parapet walls remaining to be done. **Head works.**

An additional store shed and yard were built.

195. Most of the masonry works were finished or were in an advanced stage by the end of the year. These works comprised 2 regulators, 4 drainage syphons and 8 wooden bridge crossings completed and one large drainage superpassage two-thirds completed, while materials for one regulator and one syphon were collected at site. An inspection house was built at Shwebo, as also temporary quarters for a Lower Subordinate. **Main canal.**

The excavation of the main canal was completed throughout, with the exception of a few short gaps at masonry works and for irrigation channels.

The head regulators of distributary No. 1 and of No. 8 in the angle between the two branches were built. Surveys for the alignments of 7 distributaries were undertaken.

196. Compensation was paid for all land taken up. The construction of the head regulator and of one syphon was started and materials collected at sites of 3 falls and 3 syphons. About one-fourth of the excavation of the branch was done. **Môksogyôn branch.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

197. Compensation was paid for all land taken up. The construction of the head regulator was started and the collection of materials at sites of 9 falls was in progress. About one-fourth of the excavation of the branch was carried out.

Hladaw branch. Temporary quarters for two clerks, menial establishment and police guard were erected at the headquarters of the subdivision.

Want of drinking water for the labour and water for works, caused by the partial failure of the rainfall and paucity of wells in the district, considerably hampered progress on both the Môksogyôn and Hladaw branches.

PROVINCIAL.

Irrigation Works for which only Revenue Accounts are kept.

Nwadet canal. 198. The remodelling of the Linzin, Thegyi and South Ngapyaung distributaries and combining them into one distributary with one supply head was completed. The masonry works consisted of 3 regulators, 4 pipe heads and 9 falls with wooden cart bridge crossings. An additional fall was built in the Thayetcho distributary, the remodelling of which had been mostly completed in the previous year. A tail fall was also built in the Nwadet canal. Surveys were in progress for remodelling 3 or 4 other distributaries, work on which will be undertaken in the next working season. A flood protective embankment, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile long, was constructed just below the head of the Nwadet canal, to prevent flood water from the Zawgyi river from entering the canal.

Tamôk canal. 199. Wooden grills on trestles were built in the river in front of the head regulators of the Minyè and Tamôk canals, to prevent logs and floating trees from damaging the regulators and entering the canals.

A flood protective embankment was made from the head of the Tamôk canal and the Government road from Kyauksè to Hamimbo raised for a length where it crosses a low depression, to prevent the flooding of some lands by the overflow of the Zawgyi river. A sluice for regulation and drainage was built in the embanked road.

Zidaw canal. 200. Surveys were carried out for remodelling the Myaungzôn branch in the next working season at the same time as the canal head regulator will be built.

Nathlwè canal. 201. The remodelling of this canal was completed in the year. Surveys were carried out for making new distributaries, one from the left bank and a second in continuation of the canal, to irrigate a large tract of land not now watered.

Sama canal. 202. The construction of the escape from the left bank was completed. The remodelling of the Singaing distributary, which was in progress the previous year, was completed in time for the irrigation season.

Meiktila lake. 203. The new fall, No. 10, on the escape channel and the two head regulators for the Kyaukpin and Ôkpho distributaries above the fall, were completed. The short connecting channel for the Kyaukpin distributary from the new head was also finished; but the work on the new channel of the Ôkpho distributary, which is 3 miles long, was delayed, as compensation for land was not paid and entry on land not given. The construction of the channel, with its 6 masonry falls, is now in progress.

Nyaungyan-Minhla tank. 204. The two subsidiary weirs below this tank and the new weir in the tank, with 3 subsidiary weirs, were all completed. Surveys were made for a system of 7 distributaries from this tank and work will be undertaken in the next working season.

Man canal. 205. The remodelling work was continued. The work in hand at the end of last year was completed before the rains and the following additional work was undertaken after the rains and practically completed. The remodelling of the Sagu branch for a further length of 4 miles, making 10 miles altogether, was completed and 3 regulators built. The Legaing distributary was remodelled for 2 miles more and 2 regulators built and the Padaw distributary for one mile and one regulator built. Surveys were carried out for improvements to 5 distributaries and their alignments and capacities were settled, but, owing to difficulties in entering on the land and the lateness of the season, their construction was deferred.

A large scour hole was found to have formed below the weir in the Man river and contiguous to the left flank bund. As its extension would have endangered

IV.—PROTECTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

the stability of the weir, steps were taken to refill the hole; the slope of the weir for a width of 100 feet was continued on for 34 feet and a talus 80 feet long provided below it. The scour hole was divided into compartments by lines of cribs filled with heavy stone and the compartments then filled with shingle and pitched with heavy stone. The flank bund was also extended. Some repairs were carried out in parts of the weir.

Myaungmadaw canal.

206. The masonry escape, scouring sluices and regulator, designed for the passage across the canal of the flood waters of the Paung *chaung* and which were under construction at the end of last year, were completed. After the rains it was found necessary to extend the pitching in the bed of the *chaung* and the right flank bund below the work.

Famine Test Work Surveys.

207. Field work was continued through the working season in prosecuting inquiries and surveys for projects of minor tank and hill torrent works which will serve as test works in a season of scarcity in the districts of Meiktila, Myingyan and Yamèthin. Three such tank projects have been submitted complete and other project estimates are in an advanced stage of preparation.

South Ma-ubin embankment.

208. The work of raising certain portions of this embankment to a free board of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above highest flood, commenced in 1901-02, was completed.

Myanaung embankment.

209. The extension of this embankment by 6,863 feet beyond o mile was completed.

Myitmaka chaung.

210. The removal of a sand bar, about 2 miles in length, in this *chaung*, near the village of Kyonkwa and at the junction of the Myitmaka with the Minbu *chaung*, was in progress.

Panlaing creek.

211. The work of making a cut through a loop of this creek, near Yandoon, was started.

Pegu and Sittang canal.

212. Materials were collected and some excavation executed on the construction of a lock at Minywa. Metalling the Pegu-Zaynyaungbin bund was completed, as also laterite pitching for the Myitkyo lock chamber; and the construction of a spur on the upper side of the Myitkyo lock was in progress. The piers of the old Zwebat regulator were carried away during the last rains; these are being rebuilt on a new design. Boundary pillars were under erection for demarcating land belonging to the canal. A new steam-launch, to replace the *Tawa*, was supplied during the year.

Pegu branch canal.

213. The deepening of this branch canal proceeded and 4 miles were completed.

Sittang embankment.

214. The metalling of this embankment in places was in progress; this was necessary owing to the constant and excessive foot traffic. The work of constructing formation pillars and putting delone on all ramps on the embankment was well advanced.

Zwebat-Moyingyi embankment.

215. The construction of this work will be finished before next rains.

Hpobyauk drainage cutting.

216. This work was in progress.

Diverting the Mu canal drainage of the area north of the Tantabin-Male road into the Indaw chaung.

217. The raising of Zigôn-Tantabin road east of the Mu canal and the closing of waterways through this section were completed. The length of the Mu canal between the road and Indaw *chaung* was widened where necessary and unsilted. Deepening at the north end was not done in the past year; it has since been completed.

Lowering the crest of the Letpandha weir on the Mu canal at Shwebo.

218. Work completed in June 1902.

Altering the regulator on the 16th mile, old Mu canal.

219. Work completed in September 1902.

Constructing two irrigation culverts across the Mu Valley Railway, at miles 640-11 and 641-6, north of Mohnyin.

220. Work completed in September 1902.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

221. The following operations were carried out during the year, from April to June 1902, by the Public Works Department over the whole length from Pakôkku to Homalin:—

Conservancy of the Chindwin river.

(1) Dam construction.
(2) Felling trees on eroding banks.
(3) Snag lifting.
(4) Snag and rock blasting.
(5) Scouring channels.
(6) Clearing jungle.
(7) Buoying channel from Kindat to Homalin.

The steam-launches *Search* and *Bandit* were employed on snag lifting, and buoying was successfully carried out between Kindat and Homalin, first by a country boat and then by the *Search*. The river, throughout the year, from Pakôkku to Kindat, was in very good order and steamers ran well to time. On the river, from Kindat to Homalin, although much has been done to improve navigation of the channel, a great deal still requires to be done to make it as navigable as the portion of the channel from Kindat to Pakôkku. All snags were removed early in the working season between Pakôkku and Kindat. A groyne was constructed during the year at Alôn and the Western Channel was used throughout the season by all steamers. The conservancy work from October to March 1903 was carried on by the Marine Department.

Conservancy of the Myittha river.

222. Work was carried out by the Public Works Department in April and May 1902, along the dry weather channel of the Myittha river between Indin and Natkyigôn. This is the chief route utilized by the Military Police for rationing the Chin Hills Battalion during the dry season. Most of the large rocks have been blasted and dangerous snags cleared off the channel which is now made fairly navigable to boats moving up and down during the dry season. The conservancy operations of the portion of this river about 90 miles in length from Pyinthazeik to Kyaukpyu on the district border were carried out by the Civil authorities working from 9 centres with labour obtained from 18 famine-stricken villages. It gave relief to about 500 famine sufferers who worked under *myothugyis* acting as *gaungs*.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report of Burma for 1902-03.

Excise Administration Report of Burma for 1902-03.

Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma for 1902.

Note on the Administration of Stamp Revenue in Burma for 1902-03.

Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the year 1902.

Note on the working of the Income-Tax Act, II of 1886, in Burma for 1902-03.

Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for 1902-03.

Tenth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India (Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps, VIII—Income-tax, and XIV—Paper Currency).

(a) Gross Revenue.

223. The following statement shows the collection and, in some cases, the demand, remissions and net demand under each principal head of Revenue during the past two years :—

Item of revenue.	1901-02.				1902-03.				Plus or minus of net demand.	Plus or minus of collections.
	Demand.	Remissions.	Net demand.	Collections.	Demand.	Remissions.	Net demand.	Collections.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1.—Land revenue—										
(a) Ordinary revenue ...	1,96,71,653	94,754	1,95,76,899	1,95,24,671	1,98,32,883	2,76,610	1,95,56,273	1,95,16,368	— 20,626	— 8,303
(b) Water-rate ...	44,564	77	44,487	44,457	44,586	23	44,563	44,563	+ 76	+ 106
(c) Capitation-tax ...	46,78,961	44,278	46,34,683	46,34,683	48,04,744	44,373	47,64,371	47,64,326	+ 1,29,691	+ 1,29,688
(d) *Thathameda* ...	51,78,552	73,800	51,04,752	51,02,872	52,67,410	2,46,617	50,20,793	50,19,581	— 83,959	— 83,291
(e) Fisheries ...	25,74,(86	44,074	25,29,962	25,28,269	25,83,035	44,903	25,38,132	27,84,159	+ 8,170	+ 2,55,890
(f) Land-rate in lieu of capitation.	76,810	407	75,903	75,903	79,720	1,410	78,310	78,310	+ 2,407	+ 2,407
(g) Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	17,84,519	...	...	...	16,19,150	...	— 1,65,369
Total ...	...	...	...	3,36,95,379	...	...	...	3,38,26,457	...	+ 1,31,078
1. Customs ...	...	...	...	1,06,68,718	...	...	...	1,41,87,987	...	+ 35,24,269
2. Opium ...	...	...	...	31,28,053	...	...	...	31,08,020	...	— 20,033
3. Salt Excise ...	2,41,290	10	2,41,280	2,41,381	2,30,690	145	2,30,545	2,28,559	— 10,735	— 12,822
4. Excise ...	...	...	...	30,23,089	...	...	...	29,01,045	...	— 1,22,044
5. Stamps ...	...	...	...	22,61,826	...	...	...	26,32,482	...	+ 3,70,656
6. Assessed taxes ...	...	...	...	12,13,501	...	...	...	12,17,679	...	+ 4,178
7. Forests ...	...	...	...	58,73,107	...	...	...	67,49,053	...	+ 8,75,946
8. Registration ...	...	...	...	1,07,460	...	...	...	1,30,304	...	+ 22,844
GRAND TOTAL ...	...	...	...	6,02,07,514	...	...	...	6,49,81,586	...	+ 47,74,072

Land Revenue.

224. The report on Land Revenue Administration, on which the figures in this report are based, deals with the agricultural year ending on the 30th June 1903. The report of the previous year was for a period of 15 months to the 30th June 1902. **Period dealt with.**

225. The area assessed to land revenue in Lower Burma (excluding Thayetmyo district) rose by 1,44,457 acres to the record total of 77,92,380 acres. In Upper Burma the statistics of area under assessment are for the most part still unreliable; but the yearly extension of supplementary survey is rapidly removing this cause of reproach. The current revenue demand for the province exceeded that of the previous 15 months by Rs. 1,37,565 only. All but six of the 19 Lower Burma dis- **Ordinary revenue.**

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

tricts (excluding Thayetmyo) contributed to the increased area under assessment, and only four districts showed a falling off in revenue demand. In Sandoway the area and the revenue were less by 4,633 acres and Rs. 17,852 respectively; but the totals dealt with in the previous year included a second assessment of Rs. 16,982 on 5,217 acres under "*kaing*" crops. An apparent decrease of 3,355 acres in Tharrawaddy concealed an increase of 8,484 acres, the figures for 1901-02 including two *kaing* assessments. Similarly, in Tavoy, the actual decrease was no more than 55 acres. In Henzada floods and heavy rain reduced the assessed area by 1,072 acres. Myaungmya, with 25,949 acres more, heads the list of districts in Lower Burma, which show advances in the area under assessment, Thôngwa and Hanthawaddy coming next with increases of 21,472 and 20,747 acres respectively. Three-fifths of the increase in Myaungmya and a considerable portion of that in Thôngwa was due to survey; elsewhere in Lower Burma, the increase was due to extensions of cultivation and to the expiry of the period of exemption in the case of land held under grant. In Hanthawaddy, where a very large number of grants have issued in the past, the proportion of new extensions to *potta* land coming under assessment for the first time was as 11 to 9. In Toungoo the proportion was as 8 to 3. If Lower Burma be taken as a whole, it is probable that barely one-third of the newly assessed area each year is held on grant.

The greatest increase in revenue demand was in Tharrawaddy district, where the introduction of enhanced rates, consequent on revision settlement in the Letpadan and Minhla townships, resulted in an increased demand of Rs. 1,36,518. The next most important increase was in Hanthawaddy, where new cultivation and enhanced rates contributed respectively Rs. 73,809 and Rs. 35,281 more. Henzada and Prome come next with enhancements of Rs. 97,306 and Rs. 72,909—the result of the revision rates in parts of these two districts. Other improvements, *e.g.*, Pegu, with Rs. 50,546; Thôngwa, with Rs. 33,692; and Myaungmya, with Rs. 31,994, follow naturally on the extension of the area under assessment. The stationary character of the revenue in Bassein, despite the increase in assessed area, is due to the more liberal grant of the privileged "fallow rate" of two annas per acre.

In Upper Burma the most important increase both in area assessed and in revenue demand was in the Lower Chindwin district, where the system of the direct assessment of all land combined with a reduction of the *thathameda* rate per household was for the first time introduced into the Mônywa township. The large increase (48,154 acres) in assessed area in Thayetmyo is explained by the inclusion for the first time of the unsurveyed area in Minhla subdivision, which was assessed in 1901-02 at produce rates. During the year under report an attempt was made to apply the acre rates in force in the surveyed portions of the subdivision to the remainder of the assessable area, with the result that in spite of a very unfavourable season there was an increase of Rs. 19,154 in the revenue demand. A marked decrease of 25,606 acres in the area assessed and of Rs. 1,40,655 in the revenue demand in Pakôkku was due mainly to the fact that the figures for the previous year included two *kaing* assessments, but partly to the reduction of the area under the highly assessed onion and tobacco crops in favour of the lightly assessed pea crop. In Minbu the general failure of the unirrigated crops owing to the unfavourable nature of the latter rains, and the widespread destruction of irrigated crops consequent on defective irrigation accounted for the greater part of the enormous decrease of Rs. 1,36,444 in the revenue demand. In Mandalay extensions of cultivation, owing to a more favourable season, the transfer of some 4,637 acres of island land from Sagaing, and to a small extent the irrigation from the new Mandalay canal, which is not yet in full working order owing to the absence of water-courses, combined to raise the assessable area by 8,108 acres. An increase of area assessed and of revenue demand by 22,187 acres and Rs. 15,513, respectively, in Katha was due to the better agricultural corditions prevailing at the beginning of the year, and to the liberal issue of agricultural advances. In Shwebo district the season was again unfavourable, and the area under cultivation was only about one-third of the area cropped in normal years. In Kyauksè the failure of the latter rains caused a decrease of 20,576 acres in the unirrigated area under assessment and a consequent reduction of Rs. 35,281 in the revenue demand; on the other hand, despite an inadequate supply of water in the canals,

the irrigated area under assessment increased by 27,350 acres, while the demand was Rs. 77,334 better than in the previous year. The remaining three districts of the Meiktila division showed a considerable decline both in acreage and in revenue assessed, for which the failure of the latter rains was responsible.

Land revenue remissions.

226. The amount of land revenue remitted during the year was no less than Rs. 2,82,078, all except a small fraction on account of the current assessment. In Lower Burma, Thôngwa (with Rs. 45,810), Hanthawaddy (with Rs. 42,408), and Thatôn (with Rs. 27,471) show the heaviest remissions. Remissions in Thatôn were, as in past years, rendered necessary by the destruction of crops in the townships bordering on the Gulf of Martaban by drought and incursions of the sea. Elsewhere the early cessation of the monsoon and the consequent failure of much paddy to come to maturity spoiled the promise of the crops which had escaped destruction by the over-abundance of the early showers. In Upper Burma the largest amount remitted in any one district was in Kyauksè (with Rs. 41,233), Mandalay (with Rs. 24,452), and Minbu (with Rs. 18,297) coming next.

Water-rate.

227. Water-rate is assessed in a lump sum with land revenue except in the case of non-State land in Shwebo, Sagaing and Yamèthin districts, and of land permanently or temporarily exempted from the payment of land revenue in Kyauksè and Meiktila. The revenue demand for the year was Rs. 44,586, being almost the same as that for 1901-02.

Capitation-tax.

228. Persons assessed to capitation-tax, excluding employés of the Railway Company and the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, were 28,207 more than in 1901-02, and they paid Rs. 48,08,744, or Rs. 1,29,783 more than in the previous year. Some difficulty was experienced in realizing capitation-tax from wandering Indian coolies who reap the harvest in Lower Burma. With the exception of Rs. 44,373 remitted, and an outstanding of Rs. 45, the whole demand was collected within the year. The number of persons exempted from payment of capitation-tax rose from 1,16,112 to 1,22,263. The increase was probably due to more correct classification.

Thathameda.

229. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma was 6,92,976, or 1,301 more than in 1901-02, while the demand increased by Rs. 88,858. The chief cause of the rise in the demand was the fact that the assessment rolls were made out in the first place at full rates in every district except Yamèthin, where reductions amounting to Rs. 80,702 were given in 386 hamlets. It was later found necessary to remit nearly 2½ lakhs out of the current demand owing to the failure of the latter rains and the destruction of a promising harvest. An amount of Rs. 1,212 remained outstanding at the close of the year. The total number of households exempted from payment of the tax was almost the same as in the previous year.

Fishery revenue.

230. The fishery revenue demand for the year rose by Rs. 2,85,814 to the record total of Rs. 28,38,846. This important increase was derived entirely from leased fisheries, the receipts from net licenses and other fishing implements being less by Rs. 22,353 than in the previous year. The bulk of the leased fishery revenue in Burma comes from the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions, and there was there an increase of Rs. 3,08,167 in the revenue demand. In Upper Burma in the Katha and Mandalay districts heavy remissions were called for owing to the badness of the season due to a high and prolonged rise in the Irrawaddy. Attempts were made during the year to revive the decaying sea-fishing industry of the Delta districts by reducing the cost of a license from Rs. 60 to Re. 1 per boat, and the issue of loans to fishermen. The experiment was generally successful, as shown by a large increase in the number of boats employed in the industry.

Land-rate and other miscellaneous land revenue.

231. The area assessed to land-rate in lieu of capitation-tax increased by 396 acres to 7,815, and the revenue demand by Rs. 3,410 to Rs. 79,720. The rent of Town Lands not credited to Local Funds decreased from Rs. 80,109 to Rs. 66,082, but the decrease was more apparent than real owing to the figures for 1901-02 being for a period of 15 months. The petroleum industry continued to expand, but fees, rents and royalties on other minerals, with the exception of rubies, decreased.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the land.

Customs.

232. The gross revenue realised from Customs duties at the Port of Rangoon, which was the highest on record, aggregated Rs. 1,17,20,822 as against Rs. 91,10,275 in the previous year, representing an increase of 28·65 per cent.

The total collections were made up as follows :—

	Rs.
Imports	46,71,982
Exports	70,48,840

Under imports the principal advances were in *salt* and *spirits* and *liqueurs*, the duty on *petroleum*, *raw materials* and *unmanufactured articles* and *sugar* declining. The ordinary and additional duty on *sugar* fell nearly 15 and 46 per cent. respectively. Export duty on *paddy* fell 46 per cent.; that on *rice* advancing nearly 50 per cent. At ports other than Rangoon the gross duty collected was Rs. 27,16,192, as against Rs. 17,43,199 in the previous year, or an increase of nearly 56 per cent.

Salt.

233. An important and interesting experiment was made in the introduction into the Hanthawaddy and Bassein districts on the 1st January 1902 of a system of free licenses to manufacture salt in the prescribed areas, duty being levied on the actual output at the time of sale. The rate of duty was at first fixed by the Government of India at 12 annas per maund or 4 annas less than the tariff rate on imported salt, but this was subsequently reduced to 8 annas as the manufacturers declined to take out licenses at the higher rate. Even at the reduced duty, the Hanthawaddy salt-boilers, relying on the co-operation of the Bassein men, declined to work and in consequence their factories were shut down throughout the year. The Bassein men ultimately all gave in. Owing to the delay in commencing manufacture, the output of salt from the 100 cauldrons licensed was only 81,206 maunds as compared with 105,600 maunds from the same number in 1901. The duty paid thereon was, however, Rs. 40,580 as compared with Rs. 37,500 realized on account of composition duty in the previous year—an increase of Rs. 3,080, of which Rs. 1,588 were spent on establishment. The experiment was thus a decided success, and the advantages of the new system have induced the Hanthawaddy salt-boilers to resume manufacture during the current year. The system has been extended from the beginning of the year 1903 to the Myaungmya district, and is working satisfactorily in all three districts. Elsewhere duty continued to be levied in the shape of a composition duty on the vessels employed, at the enhanced rates introduced on 1st January 1901. The estimated incidence of duty per maund varied from 1 anna 10 pies in Sagaing to Rs. 1-10-8 in Meiktila district. No change took place in the method of manufacture during the year, nor did any tendency to manufacture on a larger or smaller scale come to light. The number of iron cauldrons licensed for local manufacture increased from Rs. 2,115 to Rs. 2,558. The bad harvest in the dry zone of Upper Burma fully explains the increase of manufacture in the districts, where it still affords a livelihood when cultivation fails. The total salt excise revenue for the year 1902 was Rs. 2,30,690 as compared with Rs. 2,41,290 in the previous year, the cessation of manufacture in Hanthawaddy and the decrease in Kyaukpyu more than counterbalancing the increase elsewhere. The revenue obtained from the duty on foreign salt amounted to Rs. 14,39,979. Duty was paid at Re. 1 per maund on 14,39,979 maunds, over 2½ lakhs in excess of the duty realized in the previous year, and 2 lakhs more than has been obtained in any year since 1895. Almost 60 per cent. of the salt imported during the year came from Germany, Liverpool salt comprising barely 25 per cent. of the total. Of the balance 11 per cent. came from Aden, and 4½ per cent. from Madras. No smuggling of foreign salt came to light during the year, and it is practically certain that no such smuggling took place.

Excise.

234. Gross receipts from all heads of excise and opium revenue declined by nearly 1½ lakhs from Rs. 61,51,142 to Rs. 60,09,065. Of this decrease opium was responsible for only Rs. 20,048 although it contributed Rs. 31,07,990, or more than half of the whole revenue. License fees for imported liquors and duty on spirits manufactured in Burma after European methods were chiefly responsible for the decrease. The nett receipts from excise and opium were less by Rs. 4,99,453 than

in the previous year, in consequence of (i) the decrease in gross receipts, (ii) the larger quantity of opium issued by Government, and (iii) the very much larger expenditure on the preventive staff.

Liquor.

235. The total revenue from license fees and duties on liquors of all kinds amounted to Rs. 29,01,045 as compared with Rs. 30,23,089 in the previous year. A considerable proportion of the decrease was in the amount realized for licenses for the vend of imported liquors in Rangoon, where there was a combination among Chinese bidders to keep down prices. The revenue derived from beer and spirits manufactured in India after European methods, and from license fees for the vend thereof, was Rs. 55,351 less than in 1901-02. The decrease was principally due to a remarkable decrease in the amount of spirits issued for consumption. There has been a rapid and continuous decline during the past three years in the receipts from duty on Burma distillery liquor. Receipts from licenses for the manufacture and sale of the various varieties of rice beer which fall under the head of "fermented liquors other than *tari*" were less by Rs. 86,491 than in the previous year, but this decrease was counterbalanced by an increase in the receipts from licenses for the sale of *tari* of Rs. 87,119.

Opium.

236. The record of the administration of the opium excise was of more than ordinary interest, as certain important changes therein were introduced into Lower Burma during the year under review. In accordance with the rules under the Opium Act of 1878, no Burmans, other than persons in Lower Burma who have registered themselves as opium consumers, are permitted to possess opium. It had for some years past been the general opinion that the restrictive policy was failing, owing to the large amount of contraband opium which was smuggled into the country and which was obtainable alike by the non-registered and registered opium consumer. The measures adopted in 1893 for restricting the consumption of opium by Burmans in Lower Burma to persons then over 25 years of age, who came forward and registered themselves as habitual consumers of the drug, had proved ineffectual, partly owing to defective registration and partly because the reduced number of shops was insufficient to afford reasonable facility of supply. In order, if possible, to kill the illicit traffic, and render effective the policy of prohibition, a change in measures involving an increase in the number of licensed shops, direct supervision over the sales from these shops and considerable additions, amounting to re-organisation, in the excise staff, was introduced into Lower Burma; and similar measures have been sanctioned for Upper Burma and will be introduced from the 1st April 1904. The number of shops in Lower Burma was increased from 26 to 60; the right to sell was given to selected vendors at a fixed fee of Rs. 1,000, in place of being disposed of by auction to the highest bidder; sales were permitted only between fixed hours and under the eye of a Resident Excise Officer; the profit of the vendor was regulated by the difference between the fixed wholesale rate at which opium was issued from the Government treasury and the fixed price at which he was bound to retail it; a further opportunity for registration was given to Burmans who had failed to register themselves in 1893-94; and a much larger preventive staff was entertained. The abolition of the system of auctioning the right of retail vend and the substitution of selected vendors at a small fixed fee resulted in a decrease of more than 16 lakhs in license fees, but this was counterbalanced or nearly so by an increase from 37,232 seers to 50,026 seers in issues of Government opium, and by the enhancement of the price at which opium was supplied to the licensee in Lower Burma from Rs. 33 to Rs. 60 a seer in most cases. Financially the net result of the change in the system, excluding receipts from confiscated opium, was a decrease in revenue receipts of Rs. 15,129. The results of the new measures, in so far as they can be judged from the first year's working, have been carefully watched and considered. Briefly summarized, the conclusions at which it has been possible to arrive are that a distinct check has been given to the contraband trade owing to the displacement of illicit opium by Government opium sold to authorized consumers from the licensed shops, but that measures have not been altogether successful in restricting consumption, and in keeping opium out of the hands of non-registered Burmans. The new system has not, however, been in force for a sufficient length of time to permit of a decided opinion being formed as to its success or failure.

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Working of the excise and opium laws.

237. The number of offences against the excise and opium laws reported, the number of persons arrested and convicted, and the amounts of fines imposed and realized, all increased largely. Twice as much ganja was seized as in 1901-02, and more illicit stills and utensils for manufacturing fermented liquor were seized. On the other hand the quantity of liquor and opium confiscated fell off largely. The largest seizures of opium were made in the Yamèthin district, where in one case the police captured 21,940 tolas. The opium licensee at Henzada was shot dead, in consequence, it is believed, of the information and assistance furnished by him to the excise staff. In the Bhamo district no cases were heard of, as in previous years, of armed parties of Kachins and Chinese with opium in bulk. This is reported to have been due to measures of disarmament carried out by the Chinese authorities in some of the neighbouring trans-frontier Shan States There was gratifying evidence that village headmen are taking an increasing interest in their duties under the excise and opium laws. In Thatôn the two largest seizures of opium during the year were made by headmen.

Stamp revenue.

238. Gross receipts from stamps increased by Rs. 3,70,656, which is double the normal rate of increase in the past few years. Receipts under the Stamp Act accounted for nearly three-fifths of this substantial improvement, the greater part of which came from the districts of the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions. The increased receipts from the sale of court-fee stamps was shared more generally, only seven districts showing a decrease. The usual causes were at work to produce these variations. Losses consequent on the destructive cyclone of May 1902 and the comparatively unfavourable harvest are said to have stimulated litigation and to have increased the necessity for borrowing in Lower Burma, while in Upper Burma the scarcity of money consequent on two bad seasons in succession caused a decrease in the usual number of transactions in land. The net revenue for the year exceeded 25½ lakhs, 3½ lakhs better than the previous record. In Rangoon the large probate duty paid on the estate of a very wealthy native of India accounted for the increase of Rs. 50,540 over the total of receipts from court fee-stamps of the previous year. Substantial advances were obtained also in Thôngwa, Myaungmya and Hanthawaddy, while some of the Upper Burma districts, chiefly Yamèthin, Meiktila, and Sagaing, show large increases. Seven districts only show a decline, Mandalay heading the list with Rs. 15,180. As explained in the last Stamp Report, there was an abnormal amount of litigation in 1901-02 in that district consequent on widespread commercial disaster. Sales of stamped copy sheets rose very slightly on the whole, but in only one district (Sandoway) did they remain stationary. The largest increase was in Rangoon Town. Variations are due, in the main, to variations in the number of appeals preferred. Adhesive one-anna receipt stamps to the value of over 1½ lakhs were sold. No deductions regarding an improper use of receipt stamps for documents on which higher stamp duty is payable can be drawn from this considerable increase; because the rise under impressed stamps was proportionately much greater, no fewer than four districts showing improvements of over Rs. 12,000 each. Losses in paddy-trading and the unfavourable harvest necessitated borrowing and money-lenders, grown chary of accepting any but substantial security, were more inclined to require their debtors to sign duly stamped mortgage bonds. There was an increase of Rs. 91,907 in the sales of impressed labels in Rangoon; a considerable decrease of Rs. 2,717 in Akyab and ups and downs elsewhere. Probably the speculation in land in Rangoon consequent on the acquisition of a large space in the centre of the town for the erection of the projected Chief Court buildings was accountable for most, if not all, of it. The number of cases in which duty and penalty were levied on documents admitted in evidence by Courts fell from 1,084 to 1,050. Forty more cases were dealt with by the Collector under sections 32, 37, 40 and 41 of the Stamp Act, Shwebo and Bassein showing large increases which were only partly counterbalanced by a fall of 33 cases in Thatôn. Sixty prosecutions were instituted in excess of the total of 1901-02. Rewards for information regarding evasions of the stamp law were given in 12 districts as compared with 8 in 1901-02. The satisfactory expansion of the stamp revenue during the year may be taken to be due as well to improved administration as to natural growth with the growing population and trade of the province.

Assessed taxes, (*Income-tax.*)

239. The Income-tax Act was extended during the year to four villages in the Akyab and Thôngwa districts. There was no other change in the areas within which the tax was assessed.

The net collections exceeded those of the previous year by the small sum of Rs. 1,300 only. It would appear that while most other districts enjoyed a fair measure of prosperity during the year, Rangoon suffered a distinct check in the steady rate of progress which it had hitherto maintained, and the adverse influences and depression of trade affecting Mandalay in 1901-02 assumed a still more serious aspect during the past year. The number of Government servants assessed to Income-tax increased by 678, and the amount of tax realized from them by Rs. 11,576. The total amount of the securities held in the province during the year increased by Rs. 9,22,600, producing a corresponding increase of tax of Rs. 948. There was a decline in the holdings of Government securities to the extent of Rs. 3,58,900, those of local authorities on the other hand having increased by Rs. 12,81,500. The number of assessees in the employ of local authorities rose by 154, but the collections amounted to only Rs. 424 more than those of the previous year. There was a considerable increase in the number of persons assessed on salaries paid by companies and other private employers, the Burma Railways Company alone returning 1,380 more employés brought under assessment than they had shown for the previous year. The increase in the amount of tax collected, however, under this head was only Rs. 5,918. The amount of tax on profits of companies decreased by Rs. 27,945, the amount in Rangoon being Rs. 28,484 below that collected in the previous year. The tax on other sources of income rose by Rs. 13,621 as compared with the previous year. There was an improvement in all districts with the exception of Akyab and Kyaukpyu, which showed slight decreases, and Mandalay, with a more serious fall of Rs. 7,820 due to the prolonged depression of trade in that town. The initial demand increased by Rs. 31,151. Objections disposed of by Collectors increased by 367. In the final result the original demand was reduced by 912 assessees, or Rs. 5·3 per cent. and Rs. 1,16,670, or Rs. 16·3 per cent. tax, as compared with reductions of Rs. 1,154 or Rs. 6·7 per cent. assessees, and Rs. 1,03,391 or Rs. 15·1 per cent. tax in the previous year.

Forests.

240. The forest revenue collected during the year was Rs. 8,75,946 more than in the previous year. The increase would have been larger, but for a bad floating season.

Registration.

241. The increase of Rs. 22,844 in the amount of revenue derived from registration was due to the larger number of documents registered during the year in both sections of the province.

(*b*) Finance.

Gross receipts.

242. The following statement exhibits the gross receipts and expenditure of the years 1901-02 and 1902-03 distributed between Imperial, Provincial, Incorporated Local, Excluded Local and Municipal Funds. The transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Fund are included in these figures although these funds do not bank with Government.

Fund.	1901-1902.		1902-1903.	
	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial	3,82,43,951	1,11,67,115	4,70,50,249	1,18,46,100
Provincial	3,65,50,632	3,57,95,347	3,40,92,509	3,70,92,804
Incorporated Local	25,50,450	24,24,134	26,05,570	25,77,871
Excluded Local	29,48,539	28,39,745	31,40,976	30,43,813
Municipalities	66,41,966	63,54,404	1,00,16,339	87,26,644
Total ...	8,69,35,538	5,85,80,745	9,69,05,643	6,32,87,232

(*i*) *Imperial.*

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

243. There was a net increase of Rs. 88,06,298 in receipts as compared with the previous year, namely—

Receipts.

	Rs.
Gross increase	88,20,821
Gross decrease	14,523
Net increase ...	88,06,298

The gross increase of Rs. 88,20,821 occurred under the following heads :—

	Rs.
Land Revenue	30,91,028
Opium	1,27,591
Salt	1,50,660
Stamps	92,774
Excise	11,31,060
Customs	32,52,331
Forests	4,32,558
Registration	15,140
Tributes from Native States	64,569
Receipts in aid of superannuation	16,530
State Railways (gross earnings)	4,34,673
Military works	11,907
Total ...	88,20,821

The falling off of Rs. 14,523 is distributed as follows :—

	Rs.
Assessed taxes	2,916
Stationery and Printing	148
Miscellaneous	11,459
Total ...	14,523
Net increase ...	88,06,298

The increase under *Land Revenue* was chiefly due to the raising of the Imperial share of Land Revenue from one-third in the previous settlement to half in the new settlement which came into force from 1902-03. Extension of cultivation, growth of population and increase in fishery and petroleum revenues also contributed to the increase. The increase under *Opium* was due to large issues on the introduction of revised arrangements for sale of opium. The increase under *Salt* was partly due to growth of consumption and partly to lower prices. The losses consequent on the cyclone of 6th May 1902 and comparatively unfavourable harvest had stimulated litigation in Lower Burma. These causes and the speculation in land in Rangoon brought about the increase under *Stamps*. The introduction of revised opium arrangements into Lower Burma caused an increase in the issue of opium and a consequent increase in the gain on sale proceeds of opium credited to *Excise*. The raising of the Imperial share of the revenue from half in the previous settlement to two-thirds in the settlement which came into force from 1902-03, was also responsible for the increase. The increase under *Customs* was unprecedented and was due to large shipments of rice to Japan and China, where there was a failure of crops. The increase under *Forests* was due to a comparatively favourable floating season. Under *Tributes* the increase was nominal as more than a corresponding amount was remitted by refund instead of short recovery as in previous years. An increase in the open mileage, a rise in paddy traffic and earnings on the new Henzada-Bassein section of the Railway contributed to the increase under *State Railways* (gross earnings). The decrease under *Miscellaneous* was due to the falling off in the demand for supply bills at Mandalay, and to the restrictions imposed on the issue of supply bills by some other treasuries.

Expenditure.

244. On the expenditure side, there was a net increase of Rs. 6,78,985, which is made up as follows :—

Increases.	Rs.
Refunds and Drawbacks	1,62,887
Excise	2,03,016
Forests	1,34,403
State Railways (working expenses)	3,46,437
Military works	1,97,216
Petty increases under other heads	18,297
Total ...	10,62,256

Decreases.		Rs.
Political		18,046
Scientific and other Minor Departments ...	... ...	72,603
Interest on Capital Deposits by Companies...	... ...	2,33,197
Miscellaneous Railway expenditure ...	... ...	45,290
Petty decreases under other heads ...	... ...	14,135
	Total ...	3,83,271
	Net increase ...	6,78,985

245. The increase under *Refunds and Drawbacks* was due to larger refunds of Salt, Stamps, and Customs Revenues and to special refunds of Income-tax. The increase under refunds of Tribute collections was chiefly due to remissions having been made by repayment from amounts already collected instead of short recovery as in previous years. Under *Excise* the increase was due to the entertainment of additional establishment consequent on the introduction of revised arrangements for sale of opium in Lower Burma. The increase under *Forests* was due to the same cause which tended to augment the receipts. Under *State Railways (working expenses)* the increase was due chiefly to the maintenance and renewals of permanent way materials; larger issues of rails and other stores, purchase of sleepers for renewals, relaying of iron rails on the Prome Branch and repairs done to P. S. "Rangoon." The increase under *Military works* was due to larger expenditure on original works to meet Military requirements in Rangoon and Maymyo Cantonments. **Increases.**

246. The decrease under *Political* was chiefly due to heavier expenditure in the previous year on entertainment of envoys and chiefs in consequence of the Viceroy's visit and other charges. Under *Scientific and other Minor Departments* the decrease was due to heavier expenditure in the previous year on *Census* partly counterbalanced by an increase under Archæological and Veterinary Departments in the year under report. The decrease under *Interest on capital deposits* was due to payment of a larger amount as interest in the previous year on overdrawn capital of the Burma Railways Company. Under *Miscellaneous Railway expenditure* the outlay in 1902-03 was less than in the previous year. **Decreases.**

(*ii*) *Provincial.*

247. In the Provincial section, the receipts show a net decrease of Rs. 24,58,123 which is made up as follows:— **Receipts.**

Increases.		Rs.
Salt		1,50,659
Stamps		2,78,324
Forests		4,32,557
Registration		15,141
Law and Justice—Courts of Law		25,592
Law and Justice—Jails		11,955
Marine		75,646
Education		32,267
Medical		21,524
Miscellaneous		28,684
Minor works and Navigation		39,708
Civil works		38,070
Contributions		52,110
Petty increases under other heads		17,919
	Total ...	12,20,156
Decreases.		Rs.
Land Revenue		28,60,989
Excise		7,90,594
Receipts in aid of superannuation		20,649
Petty decreases under other heads		6,047
	Total ...	36,78,279
	Net decrease ...	24,58,123

248. The increases under *Salt*, *Stamps*, *Forests* and *Registration* were due to the same causes which affected the receipts in the Imperial section. Under *Law* **Increases**

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

and Justice—Courts of Law the increase was due chiefly to an increase in fines in excise and opium cases. The increase under *Law and Justice—Jails* was due to greater demand for extramural labour, as well as for jail-made articles. Under *Marine* the increase was mainly due to an increase under "Coast Light Dues." The increase under *Education* was due to the transfer of the Rangoon Collegiate School from the Educational Syndicate to Government with effect from 16th June 1902. Under *Medical* the increase was chiefly due to receipts in connection with the Rangoon General Hospital owing to the transfer of that institution from the Rangoon Municipality to Government from 1st April 1902. The increase under *Miscellaneous* occurs under Kheddah receipts. Under *Minor Works and Navigation* there was a double assessment of Rs. 26,361 in the previous year. The increase under *Civil Works* was due principally to improvement in sales and rents of buildings. Further extension of the system of collecting revenue through village headmen has caused an increase under *Contributions*. As explained in the Imperial section, the falling off under *Land Revenue* and *Excise* was due to the Provincial shares of these heads having been reduced from $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ in 1901-02 to $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ respectively in the new provincial settlement.

Decreases.

249. The decrease under *Receipts in aid of Superannuation Allowances and Pensions* was chiefly due to a decrease in the amount of contributions in respect of Government servants lent to the Burma Railways Company.

Expenditure.

250. On the expenditure side, there was a net increase of Rs. 15,80,926 as detailed below:—

Increases.

	Rs.
Land Revenue	1,44,191
Excise	44,099
Forests	1,34,403
Post Office	38,685
General Administration	2,56,758
Law and Justice—Courts of Law	32,673
Marine	64,092
Education	85,538
Medical	2,28,506
Scientific and other Minor Departments	32,624
Miscellaneous	4,34,522
Civil works	5,95,105
Petty increases under other heads	41,083
Total	21,32,279

Decreases.

	Rs.
Law and Justice—Jails	1,05,009
Police	61,340
Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	32,216
Minor Works and Navigation	3,38,722
Petty decreases under other heads	14,066
Total	5,51,353
Net increase	15,80,926

Increases.

251. The increase under *Land Revenue* was chiefly due to further extension of the system of collecting revenue by village headmen and to heavier expenditure on compensation for land taken up for public purposes. Under *Excise* the increase was due to the increase of establishment consequent on the introduction of revised arrangements for the sale of opium. The increase under *Forests* was due to the same causes which influenced the receipts. Under *Post Office* the increase was chiefly due to the transfer of the subsidy for the Arakan Mail Service from "*21, Marine,*" to this head and to the opening of new lines. The increase under *General Administration* was chiefly due to expenses incurred in connection with the Delhi Durbar and to payments of privilege leave allowances and arrear salaries of Commissioners. Under *Law and Justice—Courts of Law* the increase occurred chiefly under *Criminal Courts* and included an increase of Rs. 22,000 under Process-serving establishments besides general increases. The increase under *Marine* was due to increase of establishment owing to an increase in the number of steam-launches, and to larger outlay on stores and repairs necessitated by the cyclone of 6th May 1902.

Under *Education* the increase was partly due to the deputation of the Director of Public Instruction to India as a witness before the Universities Commission and to special building grants. The increase under *Medical* was mainly due to the transfer of the Rangoon General Hospital from the Rangoon Municipality to Government. Under *Scientific and other Minor Departments* the increase was chiefly due to an increase in the Veterinary establishment, to a contribution of Rs. 6,500 towards the maintenance of the Cantonment Gardens, Rangoon, and to the cost of compiling the Provincial volumes of Census Reports. The increase under *Miscellaneous* was due chiefly to expenditure on Kheddah operations, to donations to the Rangoon Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association and to the Bishop's Home for girls for purchase of house-sites and to special commission of enquiry connected with Provincial Police Committee. Under *Civil Works* the increase occurred principally under original works and was due to larger expenditure on the construction of new buildings and roads and on works of Miscellaneous Public Improvement.

Decreases.

252. The decrease under *Law and Justice—Jails* was chiefly due to the expenditure on raw materials having been heavier in the previous year. Under *Police* the decrease occurred chiefly under District Executive Force and was due to the expenditure on petty construction and repairs and arms and accoutrements having been more in the previous year. The decrease under *Miscellaneous Railway expenditure* was due to heavier outlay on the Southern Shan States and Arakan Railway Surveys in the previous year. Under *Minor Works and Navigation* the decrease was mainly due to heavier expenditure on Irrigation and Navigation Works in the previous year.

(*iii*) *Incorporated Local Funds.*

District Cess Funds, Lower Burma.

253. The transactions of the District Cess and District Funds added to those of the Taunggyi Improvement Fund show a net increase of Rs. 55,120 in receipts and of Rs. 1,53,737 in expenditure as compared with the previous year.

No change took place in the number of District Cess Funds during the year. There was a net increase of Rs. 38,058 in receipts in 1902-03 as compared with the previous year, which was due chiefly to increases under *Provincial rates, Police, Marine, Education, Civil Works by Public Works Officers, Contributions from Provincial to Local* and *Contributions from Local to Local*, while on the other hand there was a large decrease under *Land Revenue, Miscellaneous* and *Civil Works by Civil Officers*. The large increase under *Provincial rates* was attributable to the growth of revenue under that head. The expenditure was also greater than in the previous year, the net increase being Rs. 90,319. The increases occurred chiefly under the heads *Education, Miscellaneous* and *Civil Works by Public Works Officers*. While, on the other hand, there was a large decrease under *Marine*. The increase under *Education* was chiefly due to larger expenditure on grants-in-aid and that under *Miscellaneous* to transfer, under orders of the Comptroller-General, of contributions from *Civil Works* as well as to expenditure incurred on local celebrations in connection with the Coronation of His Majesty the King-Emperor. The expenditure under *Civil Works by Public Works Officers* fluctuates according to the funds available. The increase under *Contributions from Local to Provincial* was due to further extension of the system of revenue collection by village headmen. The decrease under *Marine* was due to larger expenditure in the previous year on purchase and hire of ships.

District Funds, (Upper Burma).

254. The number of District Funds was the same as in the previous year. There was a net increase of Rs. 26,972 in receipts as compared with the previous year. The increases occurred under *Police, Miscellaneous contributions from Provincial to Local* and *Contributions from Local to Provincial.*

The increase under *Police* was due to larger receipts from slaughter-house licenses and cattle-pound fees and fines and that under *Miscellaneous* to improvement in bazaar-rents.

The increase under *Contributions from Provincial to Local* represents the contribution made by Government for the construction of a dâk bungalow in the Bhamo district. *Contributions from Local to Local* vary every year.

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On the expenditure side, there was a net increase of Rs. 75,447. The increases occur chiefly under *Miscellaneous* and *Civil Works by Civil Officers*. The increase under *Miscellaneous* includes Rs. 6,886 on account of Local celebrations in connection with the Coronation of His Majesty the King-Emperor and larger expenditure on bazaar establishments. The outlay on *Civil Works* necessarily varies according to the funds available.

Taunggyi Improvement Fund.

255. During the year under report the receipts on account of the Taunggyi Improvement Fund amounted to Rs. 6,604 and the expenditure to Rs. 8,279, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 3,025 or Rs. 1,675 less than the opening balance.

(*iv*) *Excluded Local Funds.*

256. These comprise the following funds :—

Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Land Sale and Rent, Educational, Rangoon Police Reward and Rangoon Cantonment Garden Funds. The Rangoon Port Trust is also an Excluded Local Fund, but the transactions do not appear in the Government books.

The transactions of these funds during the year under report were as follows :—

Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cantonment	15,791	2,16,963	2,32,754	2,23,274	9,480
Town	86,348	2,15,572	3,01,920	1,85,800	1,16,120
Port	2,89,080	3,15,476	6,04,556	3,23,118	2,81,438
Pilot	1,49,147	3,94,260	5,43,407	4,14,401	1,29,006
Land Sale and Rent	24,874	3,16,115	3,40,989	3,20,050	20,939
Syndicate ... General	23,633	31,734	55,367	30,011	25,356
Syndicate ... College	16,357	87,904	1,04,261	73,496	30,765
Syndicate ... Collegiate School ...	19,570	11,717	31,287	31,287	...
Rangoon Police Reward	62	882	944	880	64
Rangoon Cantonment Garden ...	...	11,573	11,573	5,098	6,475
Rangoon Port Trust	6,42,743	15,49,780	21,92,523	14,36,398	7,56,125
Total ...	12,67,605	31,51,976	44,19,581	30,43,813	13,75,768

The nature of the funds has been described in previous reports.

The total outlay on Public Works from these funds during the year under report was :—

	Rs.
Cantonment Fund	44,372
Town Fund	68,329
Port Fund	34,415
Educational Syndicate, College Fund	1,769
Educational Syndicate, Collegiate School Fund	
Port Trust	3,53,254.

The only Excluded Local Funds which were indebted either to Government or to the Public at the close of the year 1902-03, are the Mergui and Bassein Port Funds which were indebted to Government to the extent of Rs. 33,448 and Rs. 12,000 respectively and the Rangoon Port Trust, which was indebted to the Public to the extent of Rs. 2,44,041.

There are seven Cantonment Funds, namely, those at Mandalay, Rangoon, Bhamo, Meiktila, Shwebo, Maymyo and Thayetmyo.

There are four Pilot Funds, namely, those at Rangoon, Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein.

The number of Town Funds has been increased from nine to eleven owing to the creation of two new Funds with effect from 28th April and 1st December 1902, one at Maymyo and the other at Nyaunglebin.

257. Excluding the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities which do not bank with Government, there are 40 Municipalities. **Municipal funds.**

The transactions of the Municipal Funds as above during the year 1902-03, were as follows:—

	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.	
					Treasury.	Civil Surgeon's Cash book.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Lower and Upper Burma.	6,07,546	28,47,137	34,54,683	27,35,252	7,18,860	571

The liabilities of Municipalities as regards loans on the 31st March 1903, were as detailed below:—

Due to Government.

	Rs.
Prome	1,79,291
Mergui	371
Yandoon	36,757
Akyab	5,222
Shwegyin	3,591
Sandoway	881
Letpadan	1,101
Henzada	6,518
Myaungmya	45,000

Due to the Public.

	Rs.
Rangoon	83,85,000
Moulmein	5,55,000

258. There are two other classes of Trust Funds, *viz*: Official Assignees' and Cemetry Endowment Funds. These Funds do not bank with Government and their accounts are not shown in the Government books. **Other classes of Trust Funds.**

259. There are four Educational Endowment Funds, *viz*: Jardine, Moung On Gaing Renoung and Copleston. These Funds do not bank with Government Treasuries and their accounts are not shown in the Government books. **Educational Endowment Funds.**

(v) *Paper Currency.*

260. The circulation of notes on the 31st March of each year since the office was first opened in August 1883 has been as follows. **Circulation of notes.**

	Rs.
31st March 1884	20,90,495
31st March 1885	13,36,705
31st March 1886	15,86,780
31st March 1887	32,01,200
31st March 1888	37,42,850
31st March 1889	28,44,310
31st March 1890	28,90,800
31st March 1891	53,11,715
31st March 1892	39,46,175
31st March 1893	66,77,090
31st March 1894	39,75,125
31st March 1895	56,50,720
31st March 1896	49,28,225
31st March 1897	53,57,155
31st March 1898	59,46,620
31st March 1899	58,85,090
31st March 1900	75,89,640
31st March 1901	1,01,51,090
31st March 1902	1,04,01,775
31st March 1903	1,50,31,740

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Issues and receipts.

261. The issues and receipts of notes for the two years 1901-02 and 1902-03 have been as follows:—

Year.	Issues. Rs.	Receipts. Rs.
1901-02	14,86,47,015	14,83,96,330
1902-03	19,17,55,415	18,71,25,450

Details by denomination.

262. The details by denomination are:—

Denomination.	Issues.		Receipts.	
	1901-02.	1902-03.	1901-02.	1902-03.
1	2	3	4	5
Rs.	No.	No.	No.	No
5	26,013	27,727	26,396	26,860
10	4,11,458	4,77,551	4,05,825	4,40,547
20	43,161	43,996	40,535	41,549
50	27,319	28,663	27,068	28,038
100	3,11,147	4,73,367	2,98,615	4,30,208
500	3,769	3,283	3,749	3,368
1,000	39,684	44,130	39,776	44,128
10,000	6,949	9,142	7,053	9,152
Total ...	8,69,500	11,07,859	8,49,017	10,23,850

Circulation by details of denomination.

263. The following table shows the circulation by details of denomination on the 31st March for the two years 1901-02 and 1902-03.

Year.	5	10	20	50	100	500	1,000.	10,000.	Pieces.	Value.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
										Rs.
31st March 1902.	7,731	96,803	12,517	7,961	59,812	317	1,327	128	1,86,596	1,04,01,775
31st March 1903.	8,598	1,33,807	14,964	8,586	1,02,971	232	1,329	118	2,70,605	1,50,31,740

The circulation of notes of the denominations of Rupees 10 to 100 continues to increase year by year. This is particularly noticeable in the case of notes for Rupees 10 and 100 more so in the latter denomination due to preference for this denomination, it being found the favourite medium for payment for paddy. No improvement in the circulation of Rupee 5 notes, has occurred since the forgery of these notes discovered in April 1891. The panic of 1891 appears to have shaken public confidence to such an extent that not a single note of Rupees 5 has been issued from the Mandalay Currency Agency since September 1893. The circulation of notes for Rupees 500, and higher denominations is almost wholly dependent upon the exigencies of trade and the falling off in the circulation of notes of Rupees 500 and Rupees 10,000, on the 31st March 1903, as compared with the corresponding date of the preceding year was chiefly due to the fact that an exceptional demand for money had lowered the reserves in the hands of the various Banks.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES.

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1902.

Notes and Statistics on Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1902.

Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1902-03.

Eighth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1902-03. Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

264. There was no change in the system of registration during the year. **Vital statistics.**

265. The population under registration in Lower Burma numbered 5,546,265 persons among whom 1,75,106 births were recorded during the year, being a decrease of 2,759 on the previous year's figures. Of the children born 90,469 were males and 84,637 were females. The birth-rate was in the annual ratio of 31·57 per 1,000 as compared with 32·07 in the previous year and 34·68 the mean of the five previous years. The falling off of ·5 per 1,000 below the last year's rate is difficult to explain in a normal healthy year, but a less energetic supervision in the matter of inspection of registers by District and Medical Officers, may account for it. The births exceeded the deaths by 57,720. In Upper Burma registration of births is in force in only 13 towns with an aggregate population of 3,00,969. The number of births registered in these towns amounted to 11,458 or 124 more than in the previous year. The registration of births in towns of Upper Burma shows improvement. **Births.**

266. The total number of deaths registered in Lower Burma amounted to 1,17,386 or 3,179 less than in the previous year. The death rate per 1,000 of population was 21·16 as against 21·74 in the previous year and 25·79 the mean of the five previous years. This like the rate for births is too low, lower than that for most Indian Provinces and about equal to the average for European countries. The number of deaths registered in the districts of Upper Burma amounted to 49,919 being 40,905 deaths in districts and 9,014 in towns. **Deaths.**

267. Calculated on the number of births registered in Lower Burma during the year, the death-rate of infants under one year of age was 196·11 per 1,000 being 217·57 for males and 173·17 for females. Of the total number of 49,919 deaths registered in Upper Burma 11,272 deaths occurred amongst infants under one year of age. **Infantile mortality.**

The highest mortality in Lower Burma is among the Hindu population which is said to be due to their disregard of the primary sanitary rules, besides exposure and insufficient nourishment and clothing.

268. One thousand eight hundred and forty-four deaths from cholera were recorded in Lower Burma being 577 in towns and 1,267 in districts as compared with 3,552 or 1,708 less than in the previous year. Small-pox was less prevalent. The number of deaths from this disease fell from 2,468 in 1901 to 1,565 during the year under report. The number of deaths from fever is slightly in excess of the number in the previous year while the number of deaths from bowel complaints, injuries and all other causes were less than those of the previous year. Only 57 deaths from cholera were registered in Upper Burma being 9 deaths in 3 out of 13 towns and 48 deaths in 7 out of 12 districts. The mortality from small-pox, fevers, bowel complaints, respiratory diseases, injuries and all other causes were 350, 18,393, 661, 691, 1,313 and 28,454 respectively. **Causes of deaths.**

269. No case of indigenous plague occurred during the year, but three suspected cases of plague imported from Calcutta by sea were detected in the Port of Rangoon at the Medical Inspection imposed against all vessels arriving from India. **Plague.**

Emigration and Immigration.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

270. The total number of immigrants who entered the ports of the province during 1902-03 was 1,42,824, 1,28,884 at Rangoon and 12,745 at Akyab. The total number of emigrants was 1,35,035, of whom 1,05,586 left from Rangoon and 27,459 from Akyab. In 1901-02 the immigrants numbered 1,54,690 and the emigrants 1,14,224.

Medical Relief.

Number of civil hospitals.

271. The number of institutions at the beginning of the year was 123 while on the 31st December 1902, there were 129 Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Number of in-door patients in civil hospitals.

272. The aggregate number of in-door patients treated during the year was 42,168 against 39,027 in the previous year or an increase of 3,141. Of these 86·1 per cent. were males, 11·1 per cent. females and 2·8 per cent. children as compared with 89, 9 and 2 respectively in 1901. Of the in-patients 31,821 or 75·5 per cent. were cured, 4,113 or 9·8 per cent. relieved, 1,789 or 4·2 per cent. discharged otherwise and 2,663 or 6·3 per cent. died. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 75·6, 9·9, 3·6 and 7·3 respectively.

Number of out-door patients in civil hospitals.

273. The total number treated out-door has risen from 8,58,200 in 1901 to 8,83,246 during the year under report or an increase of 25,046. Of these 5,12,052 were men, 1,52,919 women and 2,18,275 children as contrasted with 5,02,789, 1,52,323 and 2,03,088 respectively.

Principal diseases.

274. Malarial fevers though heading the list of diseases, show a decrease of 6,550 when compared with the number treated in 1901. There was also a decrease in attendance under the following heads :—

Small-pox, dysentery, venereal diseases, diseases of the eye, diarrhœa, diseases of the liver and skin but an increase under cholera, worms, rheumatic affections, dyspepsia, diseases of the ear, diseases of the digestive system and ulcers.

Surgical operations.

275. The number of operations performed during the year of report was 22,410 against 20,049 in 1901 showing an increase of 2,361.

Financial.

276. The receipts during the year inclusive of the opening balance of Rs. 74,918 amounted to Rs. 8,58,282 against Rs. 8,12,817 in 1901. Government contributed Rs. 1,58,017 while the local and other funds spent Rs. 7,00,265 against Rs. 1,39,239 and Rs. 6,73,578 respectively in 1901. The expenditure has increased from Rs. 7,38,139 in 1901 to Rs. 7,88,265 in 1902. The increase is principally due to the opening of the new hospitals and to the increase in the number of patients treated.

Private, Railway and Police Hospitals.

277. The total number of in and out-door patients treated in the Private, Railway and Police Hospitals amounted to 1,42,011 against 1,59,788 in 1901. The number of surgical operations performed in these institutions was 1,746 in 1902 against 2,306 in 1901 showing a decrease of 560.

Obstetric cases.

278. The total number of confinement cases attended to by Dufferin nurses in the province was 228 against 227 in the previous year.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

279. Of the total Municipal income of Rs. 89,46,075 during the year Rs. 44,06,505 or 49 per cent. were spent on sanitary works while 19 per cent. was expended on water-supply, 1 per cent. on drainage and 7 per cent. on conservancy.

Water-supply

280. An additional water-supply was made in Rangoon Town by means of tube-wells sunk in "Alôn" quarter which yield from 4,00,000 to 5,00,000 gallons per diem of pure and potable water. The Hlawga water-supply scheme estimated to cost 39 lakhs of rupees is in course of construction under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer. More than half the work has been completed and the remaining half will, it is anticipated, be finished in 1903. The Shone system of drainage was improved by the addition of new engines at the compressor station, thus providing greater propulsive power throughout. The water-supply scheme of Moulmein town is also under construction and the work is said to be well advanced. During the year several water-supply and drainage schemes were prepared and submitted by the Sanitary Engineer.

281. During the year the Sanitary Board met on three occasions, once at Akyab and twice at Rangoon to dispose of projects forwarded to the Board for opinion and advice. At these meetings projects and estimates for sanitary work were considered. **Sanitary Board, Burma.**

Vaccination.

282. The average number of Vaccinators and Native Superintendents of vaccination employed during the year was 213 and 15 against 194 and 14 respectively in the previous year. There was an increase of 18 Vaccinators and two Native Superintendents in Upper Burma while only one vaccinator was added during the year to the establishment in Lower Burma, and the Native Superintendents decreased by one. **General results.**

The number of operations aggregated 3,70,510 or 17,534 more than in the previous year. The increase was chiefly in Upper Burma partly owing to the increase in the establishment. There was a decrease of 8,110 on the whole in Lower Burma. The decline was most marked in the following districts:—

(1) Kyaukpyu, (2) Hanthawaddy, (3) Prome, (4) Bassein, (5) Henzada, (6) Tavoy and (7) Amherst.

The Civil Surgeons explain the falling off as due to (*a*) the attitude of the people who have a predilection for inoculation. They fully understand that vaccination is not compulsory outside Municipal limits, nor inoculation illegal, so that villages which willingly submitted to vaccination in past years now hold aloof altogether on one pretext or another; (*b*) a closer supervision of the work of Vaccinators and to the punishments inflicted for false returns; (*c*) to the indifferent class of men who seek employment as Vaccinators and to frequent changes in the staff owing to resignations. The unrestricted practice of inoculation undoubtedly exercises an injurious effect upon vaccination.

The percentage of successful primary operations was 87·14 against 90·27 in the previous year, while the reported rate of successful re-vaccination also showed a decrease from 51·90 in the previous year to 46·83 during the current year.

283. There was a marked increase in the number of dispensary vaccinations performed during the year of report. The number of primary vaccinations amounted to 6,622, against 3,971 in 1901-02 while the number of re-vaccinations rose from 3,277 in 1901-02 to 4,641. There was no improvement in the results of primary vaccination performed, the percentage being 76·08 against 76·38 in the previous year. But the percentage of re-vaccinations rose from 44·61 in 1901-02 to 54·54 in the year under review. **Dispensary vaccination.**

284. The amount of inspection work performed by Civil Surgeons shows a slight improvement; while that by the Native Superintendents is still low. **Verification of results.**

285. The total expenditure on account of vaccination including all charges was Rs. 85,829 or Rs. 6,692 more than in the previous year. The increase in the expenditure was due principally to the extra charges incurred in connection with the opening and establishing of the Vaccine Depôt at Meiktila. The cost of each successful case was four annas five pies as against four annas one pie in 1901-02. The increase in the average cost is apparent only owing to the initial cost in establishing the Vaccine Depôt at Meiktila. Deducting the cost on the depôt the average cost works out to three annas eleven pies. **Financial.**

286. The percentage of total cost borne by Government and other funds in each of the years 1901-02 and 1902-03 is given in the margin. The enhanced cost under Native States is due to the increase in the establishment and under Government to establishing the depôt at Meiktila. **Percentage of cost.**

Year.	Government.	Municipality.	Local Fund.	Native States.
1901-02	25·62	23·13	50·74	·51
1902-03	31·53	19·84	45·78	2·85

287. Twenty-four thousand three hundred and forty-five grains of lymph were obtained from 386 calves. This lanoline paste is distributed in collapsible leaden tubes holding on an average 20 grains each. The quality of the lymph on the whole was satisfactory. It is tested at the depôt before distribution. **Supply of lymph.**

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1902-03.

Report of the Insein Reformatory School for the year 1902.

Eighth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1902-03 and preceding years. Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools) and XII (The Press).

Education.

Primary and Secondary Education.

288. The increased funds placed at the disposal of the Department, have had the effect of extending Primary Education, making school managers more content owing to the absence of pro rata reductions, and inducing new managers to take up work, with the feeling that a livelihood was thereby insured them.

Inspection and control.

289. Application has been made for the appointment of another Inspector of Schools, whose charge shall be 'Training institutions' and 'European Education' under the new Code to be introduced.

A scheme has also been submitted for the reorganization of the Department providing for higher rates of pay and improved prospects and for the formation of a small Provincial Service.

By the introduction of an improved half-salary system for certificated teachers, the pay and prospects of teachers in Municipal and in Aided Schools have been considerably raised; better men are joining, and are content to remain.

Inspection and control have been effective and thorough, and the Inspecting Officers and Itinerant Teachers have worked well. Conferences, Vernacular and English, have as usual been held.

European education.

290. The Director of Public Instruction was appointed President, in March 1902, of a Special Committee of Officers from the various Provinces of India, appointed by the Government of India, which met in Calcutta, to report on European Education, and to draft a Code suitable for India and Burma.

Hostels, Inter-School rules and discipline.

291. As hitherto everything has been done to open hostels and boarding establishments, and to ensure efficient management of them. The inter-school rules are strictly worked in the province; but there have been cases where boys have tried to evade them by taking ship at once to Calcutta and to Chittagong, getting admission in schools there without acquittance certificates in much higher classes, and promptly returning to Burma, and seeking admission on the bogus certificates they have brought. Fortunately this system has been discovered.

As to discipline, much more help and co-operation from the parents and guardians is needed. With the exception of those in the Government Collegiate School, Rangoon, and the Municipal High School, Akyab, the boys have been well behaved and orderly. These two institutions need a firm hand: the boys are somewhat above themselves.

General statistics of institutions, and the numbers attending them.

292. The total number of institutions, public and private, rose from 18,284 to 18,931, and the attendance from 3,16,250 to 3,31,525. The number of public institutions rose from 4,741 to 5,156, and the attendance from 1,62,748 to 1,73,065.

Finance.

293. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 17,95,662 to Rs. 22,74,002. This includes fees, which rose from Rs. 3,93,711 to Rs. 6,15,591. Of the latter amount Rs. 2,06,049 represents fees levied in hostels and boarding houses which are shown for the first time. Provincial Funds show an increase of Rs. 18,264, Local Funds of Rs. 26,847, Municipal Funds of Rs. 88,178, Fees of Rs. 2,21,880, and other sources of Rs. 1,23,171. Arts Colleges, owing to the temporary absence from the Rangoon College of the highly-paid officers, show a decrease from Rs. 83,427 to Rs. 71,241. The cost of Secondary education, including the attached Primary Departments, rose from Rs. 7,62,755 to Rs. 8,43,597; and of Primary education from Rs. 3,55,389 to Rs. 3,99,748. Training Schools rose from Rs. 52,881 to Rs. 68,041. Other Special schools, owing to the exclusion this year of

the Survey Schools under the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, fell from Rs. 80,095 to Rs. 56,769. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

294. The transfer of the Rangoon College from this body to the Government has not yet been made. The General Body met four times, and the Executive Committee fourteen times during the year. Educational Syndicate.

Various questions referred by the Government for opinion were discussed. The proposal to make Rangoon a Centre for the Honours Examination in chemistry was strongly supported by the Syndicate but was not accepted by Calcutta University.

295. The number of colleges remains the same, the Rangoon College being a first grade, and the Baptist College a second grade one. The attendance at the former rose from 133 to 160, and at the latter from 15 to 18. Collegiate education.

The Rangoon College passed 11 out of 17 for the B.A., and only 16 out of 58 for the F.A. Examination. Last year 6 passed for the B.A. and 25 for the F.A. The College has suffered from changes in the staff. The Baptist College passed 1, in the 3rd division, out of 5, for the F.A.

There are no professional colleges, for Medicine, Engineering or Law. Attached to the Rangoon College, are law classes with 14 students.

296. Secondary Education includes the High and Middle Schools, *together with the Primary Departments attached to them.* Upper and Lower secondary educations for boys.

The number of English Schools for boys remained the same, but the attendance rose from 13,321 to 14,267. Vernacular Schools for boys rose from 254 to 261, and the attendance from 16,013 to 17,395. The attendance in the schools for boys includes boys and girls.

The passes by the entrance examination were 119 boys, three private students and six teachers, out of 249 presented. The results for girls will be found under "Female Education."

The total expenditure on secondary schools for boys, *including the Primary Departments attached to them* was Rs. 6,96,441, against Rs. 6,33,957, towards which students contributed Rs. 3,01,027 this year.

297. The number of Primary Schools for boys rose from 3,927 to 4,282, and the attendance from 1,16,839 to 1,24,899, in spite of the withdrawal, owing to advance and progress, of Primary Schools, into the Secondary stage. Primary education for boys.

The passes, Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular, Upper Primary and Lower Primary, were 66,091 against 55,392, of which 13,840 were girls.

The total expenditure on Primary Education was Rs. 3,58,012 against Rs. 3,21,935 last year. Provincial funds contributed Rs. 94,369, *i.e.*, Rs. 7,225 for Schools under Public management, and Rs. 87,144 for Aided Schools, against Rs. 3,608, and Rs. 89,524 respectively last year. The improved temporary salary-grant system, and the opening of Government model Primary Schools, will, it is hoped, do much to advance Primary Education.

298. (*a*) *Training.*—For *Masters* the number of schools was the same, namely, 3 Government and 3 aided; but the attendance fell from 389 to 357. Special instruction.

For *Mistresses* there were 6 schools as before but the attendance increased by 3. All are aided. The total expenditure on the former was Rs. 55,540, and on the latter Rs. 12,501. All the Schools have Training classes attached; and Slöjd classes have been added to all the Training Schools for men.

For the final Examinations, *Trained,* the passes in the men's division were:—Anglo-Vernacular Secondary 9; Anglo-Vernacular Primary 19; Vernacular Secondary 42; Vernacular Primary 37; and for women Anglo-Vernacular Secondary 1; Anglo-Vernacular Primary 2; Vernacular Secondary 23; and Vernacular Primary 6.

For *untrained* certificates, the passes by the Higher grade numbered 4; the Anglo-Vernacular Secondary 26; Anglo-Vernacular Primary 16, a great decline; Vernacular Secondary 83 against 49, and Vernacular Primary 89 against 59. The number of certificated Vernacular Managers has considerably increased among Burmans, Karens and Kachins.

(*b*) *Technical.*—Strictly speaking there is no Technical education properly so-called in the province. The Government School of Engineering at Insein con-

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

tinues to do good work and special training is given in certain other Government and aided institutions.

Drawing is taken up in a few Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Aided Schools. It is compulsory in all Government and in most Municipal Schools.

Three hundred and sixty-four teachers qualified for certificates by the Primary, and 178 by the Secondary grade.

Vocal music is taken by 17 schools, all aided, and 21 schools, one Government, one Municipal and 19 aided have separate Kindergarten schools. The attendance and passes were 607 and 505 against 452 and 428 last year.

"Kindergarten, Thinbongyi and Object lessons" are taught in the Infant, First and Second Standards of Vernacular Schools, as a part of the curriculum. The number of schools has increased from 543 to 694, and the attendance from 2,625 boys and 1,991 girls, to 4,708 and 3,399 respectively.

Industrial training such as weaving, lace-making, cutting-out and dress-making, cooking and domestic economy, book-binding, printing, carpentry, blacksmith's and tin-smith's work, and cane-work are taken up in some schools.

There were 25 apprentices at work in 9 recognized workshops. At Insein 10 attend classes for Mensuration and Geometrical Drawing: but this has not been found a success.

In the Patamabyan Examination 38 passed by the Patamangè, 23 by the Patamalat, and 13 by the Patamagyi Standard and 1 by the Patamagyaw, *i.e.*, 75 out of 364 presented for examination.

Exclusive of the Survey Schools, the total expenditure on technical institutions was Rs. 45,604 against Rs. 72,520 last year.

Female education.

299. The number of girls attending Public Institutions rose from 36,755 to 38,492. In Public Institutions for *girls*, out of a total of 14,987, 5,532 were boys. In Public Institutions for *boys*, there were 29,037 girls. In Private Institutions, there were 4,125 girls, making in all an attendance of 42,617 or 2,485 more than last year. Female education is doing well. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,88,892 against Rs. 1,62,252 last year. All the schools are *aided*.

Special classes.

300. The number of European pupils has risen from 3,025 to 3,119. There are 33 schools, of which 14 take no non-European pupils. There has been a large increase all round.

The total expenditure was Rs. 1,44,396 against Rs. 1,33,799 last year. Fees were Rs. 65,557 against Rs. 62,411.

Education among the other special races, Karens, Muhammadans, Tamils, Telugus, and others referred to above, is steadily making its way. Muhammadan education is not very hopeful. The Karens need considerable stirring up. A beginning has been made in the Shan States by opening a school for the sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi, and requests have been made that the operations of the Education Department may be extended to the Northern and Southern Shan States. A Government school has been opened in the Chin Hills. The American Baptist Mission School, in spite of all aid and support from Government has proved a failure. The work among the Kachins is very hopeful.

Private schools.

301. The private schools are chiefly for purely religious instruction. They are visited regularly by the itinerant teachers, and are being gradually brought on the public list.

Text-books.

302. The Text-book Committee has done good work during the year under report.

The Insein Reformatory School.

303. There were 96 boys in the Insein Reformatory School on January 1st, 1902, 16 were admitted and 25 released. The discipline and health were good. Considerable attention has been given during the year to the management of the School and steps have been taken to give full effect to the orders.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

304. One hundred and twenty-three publications were registered under Act XXV of 1867 as compared with 134 publications in the previous year. Of these 95 were originals and 28 republications, 19 being intended for educational purposes. Of all the works 57 were classified under the head "Religion," 24 under "Drama," 3 under "Science," 5 under "Law," 16 under "Language," 2 under "Medicine,"

5 under "Poetry," 1 under "History," 2 under "Fiction" and 8 under "Miscellaneous." Of the 123 publications registered during the year under report, 5 were published in English, nine in English and Burmese, forty-seven in Burmese, forty-seven in Pâli-Burmese, three in Sgaw-Karen, four in Pâli, three in Shan, two in Kachin, and one each in Talaing, Pwo-karen and Tamil. VII—INSTRUCTION.

305. There are three English daily newspapers in the province, one of which is published in Mandalay. The other two, the *Rangoon Gazette* and the *Rangoon Times*, each have a circulation exceeding 1,000 copies. There are besides two daily English publications devoted to advertising. Two daily Burmese newspapers, the *Friend of Burma* and the *Burma Herald*, each have a circulation exceeding 500 copies, and there is a third, confined to advertisements, with rather less. Of newspapers with weekly, bi-weekly or tri-weekly issues there are, exclusive of the purely commercial Market Report, eleven published in English, five in Burmese, one in Tamil and one in Guzerati. The remaining periodical publications, issuing less frequently than once a week are for the most part religious. The majority of the papers that have been enumerated are published in Rangoon, but in addition to Mandalay, Akyab, Bassein, Moulmein, Prome and Toungoo each possess at least one paper. The bulk of the Press is owned and controlled by persons of European extraction; but there are, exclusively of purely commercial and religious publications, nine papers controlled by natives that issue more frequently than once a week. Seven of these are owned by Burmans, and only three of them appear in English. English and Vernacular newspapers.

Arts and Sciences.

306. Burmese art was represented at the Indian Exhibition at Dehli in January 1903 by seven Burmese artisans from Rangoon, Moulmein and Pagan, master craftsmen in silver, wood-carving and lacquer work. The industries represented by exhibits were silver work, wood and ivory carving, glass mosaic, bronze statuary, gilt and colored lacquer ware, niello work, appliquè curtains and screens, and embroidery. Seventeen prizes in all, of which 5 were first prizes were won by exhibitors from Rangoon, Moulmein, Prome, Mandalay, Pagan and Toungoo. Three gold, 8 silver and 5 bronze medals were also awarded. All prizes carried certificates.

In Burma the third exhibition since the revival of the provincial art competitions was held in Rangoon in November 1902. The number of exhibits as a whole was small but the quality, especially in taste of design, was considered an advance on the exhibits of last year. The Burman artisan revels in detail which is apt to become too exuberant, overdone and oppressive. The silver work was of a very high standard. A silver cup with pointed cover which was exhibited by Maung Yin Maung of Rangoon afterwards won a first prize with gold medal at the Delhi Exhibition. Statuettes in silver, bronze and wood, and some pieces of wood and ivory carving were noticeable. The exhibits of glass mosaic and *Kalaga* work were poor.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE :—

Report on Archæological Work in Burma for the year 1902-03.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

307. As in the previous year, the Archæologist devoted a large share of his time to the decipherment of the ancient inscriptions found in different parts of the province. A sum of Rs. 41,184 was expended during the year on the conservation and repair of ancient monuments. A number of buildings used as offices and private quarters were dismantled and removed from the platform of the Palace at Mandalay and the buildings and decorations of the Palace were to a great extent restored to their original condition. The *pyatthats* over the gateways of the old city wall were repaired, and new ones erected to replace those which had disappeared. At Pagan four pagodas and two temples are under process of repair at the expense of Government.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical.

308. The Report of last year gave briefly the history of the see of Rangoon up to the resignation of the Right Reverend J. M. Strachan, M.D., D.D., on the 1st October 1902. His successor the Right Reverend A. M. Knight, M.A., D.D., late fellow, Dean and Lecturer of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, was consecrated the third Bishop of Rangoon in Westminster Abbey, on St. Matthias' Day, February 24th, 1903. Few other events call for notice in this report.

A new Church has been dedicated at Myingyan, which takes the place of one destroyed by fire. At Maymyo excellent buildings have been erected for the Diocesan Girls' School. In Rangoon the Diocesan Boys' School has been greatly improved at considerable expense. The list of Government Chaplains will suffer by the departure of the Reverend J. H. Parry who goes before the close of the current year to work in the Diocese of Lahore. Owing to the length of time which intervened between the departure of Bishop Strachan from Burma and the arrival of his successor, little more could be done than the maintenance of the existing ecclesiastical work.

Stationery.

309. As in previous years, the stationery required for Government use throughout the province was procured from the Superintendent of Stationery, Calcutta, at a cost of Rs. 3,04,727, which, compared with Rs. 2,81,175 in 1901-02, shows an increase of Rs. 23,552. With the exception of paper of the higher grades, of which comparatively small supplies are needed, the paper used is of Indian manufacture. These papers are improving in finish and quality, and are well suited to all ordinary official purposes.

General Miscellaneous.

310. *Nil.*

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 546, Chief Secy., 31-12-1903—580.

54/1905

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1903-04.

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REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1903-04.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Territorial changes.

The rapid increase of population in the Irrawaddy delta since the formation in 1893 of the Myaungmya district has made a further subdivision of charges necessary, and a new district, called the Pyapôn district, was formed during the year. Relief was thus given to the Deputy Commissioners of Thôngwa and Myaungmya, and by a re-arrangement of townships the most valuable fishery tracts were brought together under the Deputy Commissioner of Thôngwa, now called Ma-ubin district. Two new townships, Moulmeingyun and Tharrawaddy, were also constituted, the former in Myaungmya and the latter in Tharrawaddy district.

The Administration.

2. Sir Frederick Fryer was succeeded as Lieutenant-Governor on the 4th April 1903 by Sir Hugh Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.

Southern Shan States.

3. External relations remained peaceful, though there were some disturbances in Northern Siam in the first half of the year, and the ferment across the border gave cause at times for some anxiety in Kēngtūng. Within the frontier, discontent in the lake district of the Yawnghwe State, caused by the *Sawbwa's* fiscal innovations, threatened to break out into serious disorder, but the opportune arrival of a British officer on the scene averted the immediate danger. The misconduct of the administrator of Wanyin compelled his removal from his post. The new scale of tribute proved more onerous than was anticipated, and some remissions were granted. Improvement in communications made satisfactory progress except in Mongnai and Kēngtūng. The important question of the construction of a railway to Taunggyi was again under consideration. A successful durbar was held at Taunggyi, combined with an agricultural show and an exhibition of arts and crafts.

Northern Shan States.

4. The Northern Shan States enjoyed a prosperous year. Order prevailed on the frontier though there was trouble on the Chinese side of the border. The only untoward event was the death of Captain Wyllie, Assistant Commandant of Military Police, who was shot while effecting the capture of a notorious Chinese dacoit.

The Chin Hills.

5. From the Chin Hills also come reports of continued peace and progress. While the Chins beyond the borders continued to raid and quarrel among themselves, the frontier was respected, and in several instances the tribesmen expressed their willingness to come under British protection. Useful progress was made in disarmament. Chins were substituted to a small extent for Indian military police in the Pakôkku Chin Hills, and the experiment has so far proved successful.

The Kachin Hills. 6. There was some increase of petty raids on the Chinese frontier of the Kachin Hills, but relations with the Chinese frontier officers were satisfactory. A number of claims against Chinese subjects were amicably settled, and an understanding was reached on the question of runaway slaves. Frontier trade was encouraged by the grant of a drawback of seven-eighths of the customs duty on goods imported into Burma by sea and passing into China *vid* Bhamo and Têngyüeh. The mule road from Bhamo to the frontier was with the consent of the Chinese extended to the Manwaing plain. The work was carried out by Engineers of the Burma Public Works Department and is to be paid for by a special cess or tax levied by the Chinsse customs. A bridge remains to be built but the rest of the work was nearly completed by the close of the year.

Condition of the people. 7. There was no check to the steady advance in the prosperity of the country.

Realization of land revenue. 8. The land revenue of the province was collected on the whole with ease. The outstandings were small, and the number of coercive processes, though still large, decreased. Nearly eighty-eight per cent. of the revenue for which processes issued was realized.

Surveys. 9. A party of the Survey of India was at work in the Pakôkku and Shwebo districts, and completed nearly eight hundred miles of traverse and an equal amount of cadastral survey. Original and revision survey work was also done by local parties over areas aggregating more than five hundred miles.

Settlements. 10. Original settlement operations were in progress in seven districts. The new rates proposed in Myaungmya and Pyapôn were sanctioned, and resulted in a large increase of revenue. The old rates were fixed when these districts, now populous, were almost covered with tidal forest. The Katha district is unhealthy and operations were delayed by sickness in the staff. The 1888 settlement of a part of the Akyab district was revised and the revenue increased by a third. Revision and summary settlements were in progress in other districts.

Land Records. 11. Two districts of Upper Burma were brought for the first time under supplementary survey. The records of land transfers show a large increase in sales and decrease in mortgages, due, perhaps, partly to speculation and partly to the transferees insisting on outright sales, at least on paper, in place of the usufructuary mortgages for indefinite periods hitherto common in Burma.

Waste lands. 12. There was a large increase in the area granted or leased in the Tenasserim division, especially the Amherst district, but a falling off in Pegu. The number of pending applications was in some cases unduly large, and in view of the delays inseparable from the present system it has been decided as an experiment to suspend the issue of grants in one division.

Revenue and rent paying classes. 13. Nineteen-twentieths of the land is held by agriculturists, and the proportion increased during the year. This was due to a favourable season, the area cultivated in Upper Burma being very variable. On the other hand the general tendency in the delta is a steady rise in the proportion of land held by non-agriculturists.

Legislation. 14. Two bills, to amend the Upper Burma Towns Regulation and the Burma Municipal Act, became law in 1903, and three others giving the Rangoon Magistrates special powers for dealing with thieves and vagabonds, defining the word

pwè so as to make a license necessary for boat and other races, and restricting the sale of cocaine, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council and passed into law in the present year. Regulations enabling revenue officers to be invested with the powers of civil courts, and bringing the right of second appeal in civil suits more into conformity with the Civil Procedure Code, were passed for Upper Burma by the Governor-General in Council.

Police.

15. The main features of the year's police work were not satisfactory. There was an increase in cognizable crime, especially of the more serious kinds, less successful recruiting, and a greater number of departmental punishments. Good progress was made in the housing of the men, which had hitherto left much to be desired; and a number of outposts in remote places were converted into police-stations, enabling accused persons to be released on bail at once and their cases investigated whereas formerly they had to be taken in custody to a distant police-station. The reports on the working of beat patrols, the identification of criminals by the central bureau, and the relations between the police and headmen were satisfactory. The increase in serious offences was shared by Rangoon town. The work done by village headmen, useful in other respects, showed a failure to assist the police in excise and opium cases.

Criminal justice.

16. Certain Assistant Commissioners were, before the end of the year, empowered to sentence up to seven years in criminal cases, thus relieving the overburdened Deputy Commissioners in the most hard worked districts of much of their criminal work. The number of criminal cases increased in Lower Burma, but remained about the same in the upper province. Revisions by District Magistrates increased largely in number. Much greater use was made in Lower Burma of the power to release first offenders on security. The number of persons arrested on suspicion and ordered to find security for their good behaviour somewhat decreased.

Prisons.

17. The number of admissions to the jails was greater than in 1902, but owing to the larger proportion of short-term prisoners the daily average population was less. A large number of prisoners were released on account of the Coronation. Punishments increased in number owing to stricter discipline. Fetters were more seldom used for safety, but more frequently as a punishment. There were three escapes, one followed by re-capture. The accounts show a large saving in expenditure, mainly in dieting, and the nett cost per prisoner also largely decreased in spite of a falling-off in the profits from manufactures. The jail gardens supplied the prisoners with vegetables and yielded a handsome profit in addition. The death-rate showed a slight increase, but was below the average of earlier years.

Civil justice.

18. There was a general increase in litigation. Pending the introduction of a separate judicial service, executive officers in the heavier charges were relieved as far as possible of their civil judicial work by the appointment of special judges. The clerical establishment was strengthened.

Registration.

19. The number of documents registered in Lower Burma increased largely, and the value represented by them rose in even greater proportion. Much of the increase was due to speculation in land. Registering officers are now required to take the thumb impressions of all executants who are not personally known to them, or who are unable to sign their names.

Municipal Administration. 20. The revenue of the Rangoon Municipality showed a substantial increase. Large expenditure was incurred on new water-works and on reclamation. Arrangements are being made for providing electric light and trams. A 4½ *per cent.* loan of fifteen lakhs was raised during the year, and was tendered for considerably above par. At Moulmein and Prome large sums were expended on new water-works, but the scheme at Mandalay is in abeyance. The financial position of the Moulmein Municipality has improved, and a general revision of assessment has resulted in a large increase in the revenue of that town. Electric tramways were started at Mandalay after the close of the year, and the new buildings for the Zegyo market, by far the largest in Burma, approach completion.

Military and Volunteering. 21. The strength of the regular military force was somewhat reduced. Volunteering showed a steady increase.

Marine. 22. Marine surveys were in progress in the Tenasserim and Arakan divisions. A new light-house, better placed than the old, was opened at the mouth of the Moulmein river, and a light-house off Cheduba on the coast of Arakan was under construction. Three new launches were added to the Government fleet. There was a large increase in the number of vessels visiting the ports of the province. The ship *Laomene* foundered off the Alguada reef in February 1904.

Agriculture. 23. There were no serious epidemics among cattle, and agricultural stock increased. Inoculation against rinderpest was tried with varying success. A bumper rice crop produced low prices, but the prosperity of the country was shown by the ability of the people to keep back their crops until the price rose again. Cotton was in active demand. Cultivators were assisted with advances in nearly all districts. Endeavours are being made to encourage thrift among agriculturists by the establishment of co-operative societies under Government supervision. The protective embankments of Lower Burma in charge of the Public Works Department continued to assure the crops over a large area and thus to justify their construction. Several retirements and a small extension were made.

Weather and crops. 24. The rainfall was good at the beginning and end of the season, but deficient in the middle, in Upper Burma so much so as to threaten at one time serious scarcity. The season on the whole was good, and there was an increase of a million acres in the area of land under rice alone.

Horticulture. 25. Small experimental gardens were maintained by Government at various places, the most successful being in the Southern Shan States. Havana and Virginia tobacco-seeds were again distributed and excellent results obtained. Tea succeeded in the Shan States. An attempt to rear silkworms from French eggs failed.

Forests. 26. The forest reserves now exceed twenty thousand square miles. Fire-protection was made more systematic, but was not altogether successful. Some interesting experiments in teak-reproduction with the aid of fire were carried on. Forest offences increased in number. The output of teak was considerably enhanced owing to a good floating season.

Mines and quarries. 27. The output of petroleum in the fields of the Burma Oil Company largely increased, and the royalty amounted to nearly twelve lakhs. The Ruby Mines Company prospered and renewed their lease. Work was abandoned in the coal-mines in Shwebo. Dredging for gold was carried on in the upper reaches of the

Irrawaddy. Tin is still worked only on a small scale by native miners, but several European prospectors are in the field.

28. Twelve new rice mills were established and the number of operatives largely increased. **Manufactures.**

29. The value of the sea-borne trade was the highest yet recorded, in spite of a decline in the exports of rice. Imports rose in value by well over a third. The higher value was partly due to a rise in the price of cotton, but the bulk even of cotton goods increased. Large imports of silk from Japan placed her third among the importing countries, next to the United Kingdom and the Straits Settlements. The Straits and Japan received most of the rice. The coasting trade, and that with the Shan States and with China, also showed an advance, and the cessation of disturbances in Siam was followed by a large increase in the trade with that country. **Trade.**

30. Several important roads were under construction, and that connecting Moulmein with the Siamese frontier was practically completed. Traffic on the railways grew considerably, and the net earnings rose by three lakhs. Sanction was received for a railway line from Pegu to Martaban. **Public Works.**

31. There was a large increase in the area irrigated from canals in Upper Burma, chiefly owing to the opening of the new Mandalay canal and to the abundant rains in the latter part of the season. It was partly counterbalanced by a decrease in tank irrigation in Yamèthin and Meiktila owing to the failure of the middle rains. The construction of the Shwebo canal was advanced and work was started on the Môn canals. **Irrigation.**

32. The total gross revenues of the province increased by seventy-three lakhs and a half and the Imperial share by nearly forty-four lakhs. The expenditure rose by thirty-two and a half lakhs, of which the Imperial share was nearly fifteen. The railways were largely responsible for the increase on both sides of the account. There was a marked decrease in the expenditure on military works. **Imperial revenues.**

33. Land revenue proper showed an increase of nearly twenty lakhs. Of this over five lakhs resulted from the substitution of land-tax for *thathameda*. The rest of the increase was due to the introduction of new rates following on settlement, a temporary expansion of agricultural operations in Upper Burma owing to a good season, the steady advance of cultivation in the lower province, and the opening of the Mandalay canal. The number of persons assessed to capitation-tax in Lower Burma increased by two per cent. and the demand by over a lakh. Village headmen made greater use of the powers of exemption on account of poverty or old age lately conferred on them. In Upper Burma the *thathameda* declined by over six lakhs, partly owing to migration, but mainly on account of the substitution of land revenue mentioned above. The revenue from fisheries steadily increased, and the royalty on petroleum rose by nearly fifty per cent. **Land Revenue.**

34. There is only one navigation canal on which dues are collected. The receipts slightly declined. **Canal revenue.**

35. The import duties yielded nearly eight lakhs more, but the export duties produced nine lakhs less owing to the restricted exports of rice. **Customs.**

36. The second year's working of the new opium scheme showed an increase in receipts of fifty *per cent.* over the first, and the net revenue far exceeded that under the old system, notwithstanding the large increase in expenditure and the **Opium.**

handsome profits of the vendors. Though much more Government opium was sold than formerly, the general opinion is that the consumption of opium in the province is much the same and that the gain to Government has been at the expense of the smuggler.

Salt.

37. There was a large increase in the local outturn of salt, and a decline in duty-paid foreign imports. The proportion of English to other foreign salt was much larger than in the previous year. The imports of salted fish fell off by nearly a third, the deficit being no doubt supplied locally. The new system of assessing duty on the outturn instead of at a fixed amount per cauldron proved a financial success, and its operation has been extended.

Excise.

38. The excise revenue showed a considerable increase, mainly in imported liquors, the enhanced receipts from which were largely due to the break-up of a combination of bidders in Rangoon. Larger consumption was the cause of an increase in the revenue from native fermented liquors. Security for the payment of license fees was dispensed with, and a system of monthly payments in advance was substituted.

Stamps.

39. The stamp revenue also showed an increase above the average, owing to the prosperity of the year and to land speculation in and near Rangoon. The increase was mainly in non-judicial stamps.

Assessed taxes.

40. Income-tax, hitherto levied on incomes of Rs. 500 and over, was remitted under an Act passed in 1903 on all incomes under Rs. 1,000, and the number of persons assessed was less than half that of the previous year. The demand, however, decreased only slightly, and in Rangoon and five other districts there was an increase.

Forests.

41. The forest revenues increased by more than a fourth owing to the larger extraction of teak. The exports of timber in the previous year were much below normal.

Provincial revenues.

42. The provincial share of the increase in the gross revenues was over thirty lakhs and a half and of the increase in expenditure nearly eighteen. The increases were mainly under the heads shared with imperial funds, but expenditure on civil works rose by nearly seven lakhs.

Local Funds.

43. The district cess funds in Lower Burma grew in sympathy with the land revenue. The other funds generally showed substantial increases.

Births and deaths.

44. The birth-rate rose to a little under thirty-four per thousand. An abnormal monsoon and heavy rains towards the end of the season brought a large increase in the death-rate, from twenty-one to twenty-four in the lower and from seventeen to nearly twenty-two in the upper province. There was a large increase in deaths from cholera, but the rise in the death-rate was mainly due to fevers and bowel complaints.

Emigration and Immigration.

45. The stream of immigrants from India continued to increase, and an addition of at least fifty thousand was made to the population in this way.

Medical relief.

46. The number of in-patients admitted to the hospitals showed a considerable increase. Seven new dispensaries were opened during the year. In Lower Burma the most prevalent disease was worms, and in Upper Burma malaria.

Sanitation and Vaccination.

47. The Hlawga water-works for Rangoon are still under construction, and the Victoria Lake, the only good drinking water available, was lower than usual.

To prevent a water-famine it was necessary to limit the supplies and to use for a time the water of the Royal Lake, which caused an increase in bowel complaints. The Moulmein water-works also were not completed. A successful experiment in the disposal of refuse was made by the construction of a septic tank at Maymyo. The staff of vaccinators was again strengthened, but their work was reported to be unsatisfactory.

48. Good progress was made in education, the attendance, especially at schools controlled by Government, being largely increased. The pay of teachers in municipal and Government schools was raised considerably, Government undertaking to pay half the salary in the former provided the prescribed tests were passed. Itinerant teachers were made pensionable servants. A new vernacular curriculum, of a more practical character and better suited to the needs of agriculturists, was introduced; and better terms were offered to the managers of small vernacular schools. Steps are being taken to introduce a system of grants on the lines approved by the Simla Conference. Vernacular secondary education showed a decline. The number of University passes was below the average, but one striking success was secured. Technical education is as yet backward. **Education.**

49. The work of repairing and restoring the pavilions on the walls of Mandalay city was completed and further repairs were made to the palace buildings. The Queen's monastery at Mandalay and several pagodas at Pagan were repaired, and a museum at Pagan was under construction. **Archæology.**

PART II.

REPORT.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES.

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Report on the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.

Physical features of the country, area, climate and chief staples.

For information concerning these matters paragraphs 1 to 8 of the Report for 1901-02 may be consulted.

POLITICAL.

Historical summary.
Form of administration.
Character of land tenures, system of survey and settlement.

For information concerning these matters, paragraphs 9 to 55 of the Report for 1901-02 may be consulted.

Civil divisions of British territory.

Formation of a new district.

1. Permanent information concerning these divisions was given in paragraphs 56 to 67 of the Report for 1901-02. The most important territorial change of the year was the constitution of the Pyapôn district. Owing to the rapid increase of the population in the delta of the Irrawaddy since the new district of Myaungmya was formed in 1893, it was found necessary to relieve the Deputy Commissioner of that district and also of the adjoining district of Thôngwa, which had its headquarters at Ma-ubin. The new district was composed of the Pyapôn, Kyaiklat and Dedayè townships and part of the Pyindayè township of the old Thôngwa district, with subdivisional headquarters at Pyapôn and Kyaiklat, while the Pantanaw township was transferred from Myaungmya to Thôngwa, now called the Ma-ubin district. That part of the Pyindayè township which was retained was renamed Bogale, as the headquarters are at that station. A new township of Moulmeingyun in the Myaungmya district was formed out of the remainder together with part of Wakèma. One effect of the new arrangement is to collect the most valuable fishery tracts of the province under the hand of the Deputy Commissioner, Ma-ubin, who will become an expert in fishery administration. Some slight alterations were also made in other township boundaries. The new arrangement took effect from the 1st December 1903.

Other changes.

2. A new township of Tharrawaddy was formed from parts of the Letpadan and Minhla townships with effect from the 1st November 1903. The Yenangyaung township, formerly part of the Magwe subdivision, was made into a separate subdivision under the Deputy Commissioner, Magwe. Yebaw, an island in the Irrawaddy, was transferred from the Sale township of Myingyan to the Salin township of Minbu, and the village of The-in-kyun from the Allanmyo to the Kama township of Thayetmyo. The boundaries of the Myoma and Leiktho townships of Toungoo, and of the Mergui, Bôkpyin and Tenasserim townships of the Mergui district were revised; and the headquarters of the Seikpyu township, Pakôkku district, were transferred from Aukseik to Seikpyu, those of the Taungdwingyi township, Magwe, from Taungdwingyi to Satthwa, and those of the Thigwin township, Myaungmya, from Thigwin to Einmè.

Details of the last census. Tribes and languages.

The Report for 1901-02, paragraphs 68 to 75, gives this information.

Changes in the Administration.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

3. THE HON'BLE SIR H. S. BARNES, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., I.C.S., received charge of the administration from SIR F. W. R. FRYER, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., on the 4th April 1903, and held charge till the end of the year.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Southern Shan States.

4. The external relations of the Southern Shan States were peaceful throughout the year. There were some disturbances in Northern Siam, and the ferment across the border gave cause at times for anxiety in Kēngtūng, but the year passed without the occurrence of any regrettable incidents. Within the frontier, the discontent in the Lake district of the Yawnghwe State, caused by the *Sawbwa's* fiscal innovations, threatened, early in the cold weather of 1903, to break out into serious disorder. But the opportune arrival on the scene of a British officer averted the immediate danger, and it is hoped that the moderation shown by the *Sawbwa* under the guidance of the newly appointed Adviser will have the effect of allaying the disaffection of the turbulent Intha population. The misconduct of the Administrator of Wanyin, who was suspended on a charge of shielding offenders and harbouring criminals, compelled his removal from his post. With these exceptions there were no very serious instances of maladministration, though many of the Chiefs still need constant guidance and supervision. The new scale of tribute, which fell due for the first time in the year under review, proved in some cases to be more onerous than was anticipated and has lately been under the Lieutenant-Governor's consideration, more especially in the Myelat, where it is clear that some relief is necessary to enable allotments of funds to be made for public works. Many of these States are so small, and their resources so meagre, that they cannot be expected without assistance to accomplish much in the way of public improvements. After an examination of their position some remissions for the past year have recently been granted. Outside the Myelat many States made satisfactory progress in improving communications, and several Chiefs, notably the Möng Küng *Myoza*, deserve mention for their energy in constructing roads and bridges. On the other hand both in Möng Nai and in Kēngtūng the interests of the people were not in this respect sufficiently considered. The opening up of communications within and between the States is a matter of much importance to the future development of the natural resources of the country, more especially if the construction of a railway to Taunggyi, which is again under consideration, should meet with approval. Though the past year was one of good crops and of improved trade, experience tends to show that until a cheap and easy means of communication with the markets of Burma is provided there is no sufficient incentive to, and no immediate prospect of, any large extension of cultivation. The durbar at Taunggyi was well managed, and it is hoped that the agricultural show and the exhibition of arts and crafts, which were this year associated with the durbar gathering, will be established as annual events. Crime was fairly well reported. Some serious cases of violent crime were reported from Kēngtūng: but it would not be reasonable at present to expect in Kēngtūng, with its large area and long external border, the same degree of tranquillity that exists in the inland States. The public health was good, and the civil hospital at Taunggyi continued to advance in popularity. The Kēngtūng Civil hospital so far has not been very successful. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Shan Chiefs showed satisfactory progress.

Northern Shan States.

5. The Northern Shan States enjoyed a prosperous year. Though there was much trouble on the Chinese side of the boundary, order prevailed on the frontier, and there was no important disturbance within the States themselves. The steps taken to effect the capture of a notorious Chinese dacoit in North Hsenwi unfortunately led to the death, in January 1904, of Captain Wyllie, the Assistant Commandant of the Military Police Battalion. The despatch of a party to the frontier to carry on the work of erecting permanent boundary pillars caused some alarm among the Was on the North Hsenwi frontier, but their apprehensions took no offensive form. The annual settlement of border cases with the officials of the States of Chefang and Möngmao on the Chinese side of the

frontier proved to be satisfactory, and year by year this system of maintaining order and punishing crime on the frontier is likely to be more widely and readily accepted. The financial embarrassment of Saw Hkè, the acting *Sawbwa* of Hsipaw State, was a serious drawback to his efficiency as an administrator. The treasury of this important State has been in the charge of a Treasury Officer appointed by the Local Government since July 1902, and the revenue realised shows a substantial increase. In December 1903, the Palaung State of Tawngpeng was included in the charge of the Assistant Superintendent at Hsipaw. Since the close of the year an officer has been posted to Tawngpeng as a temporary measure, under the Assistant Superintendent, in order to assist in the reorganisation of the finances of the Chief, who has asked for help and guidance. The irregularities and abuses characteristic of the more backward Shan States continued to exist in North Hsenwi. The South Hsenwi State was well administered and the Chief of East Manglün, the greater part of whose State lies beyond the Salween, showed himself to be friendly and loyal. The rapid development of railway traffic deserves notice. Although exports by road naturally diminished, the returns show a large increase in the total exports of the States, and a small decrease in imports. Much useful work was done in the making and the repair of roads; violent crime decreased, and the statistics of detection are satisfactory. In Hsipaw the revenue administration was good and the income of the State increased. Elsewhere the fiscal methods of the Chiefs are still very primitive, though they are gradually improving under the advice and guidance of the Superintendent and his officers.

The Chin Hills.

6. The Chins of the unadministered territories beyond our borders continued to raid and quarrel among themselves: but as a rule they respected the frontier. The progress of the Chin Hills was on the whole satisfactory, but there are indications that the Chins still feel the need of sources of income other than agriculture and trade to compensate them for the lawless profits of slave and cattle raiding which they used in old days to enjoy. The hospital and Government Vernacular School at Falam give evidence of increasing popularity. Useful progress was made in the matter of disarmament. Considerable expenditure was incurred during the year in constructing mule tracks and roads from Mindat-Sakan to Khrum and Kanpetlet in the Pakôkku Chin Hills and from Falam to Tyao River in the Chin Hills proper. A project for a piped water-supply at Falam was sanctioned shortly after the close of the year. In the Pakôkku Chin Hills the substitution to some extent of Chins for Indian military police has so far proved successful, and has been instrumental in inducing the villagers of Khrum to tender their submission.

The Kachin Hills.

7. There were no important disturbances on the Kachin Hills frontier during the year, but the number of minor border cases increased. The Chinese authorities have not succeeded in carrying out fully their part of the Manai Agreement of 1902 with respect to the establishment of military outposts for the better control of the Kachin tribesmen on the Chinese side of the frontier. On the confines of the Myitkyina district they are reported to have made no attempt to station a border post, while on the Bhamo frontier their operations were frustrated by sickness among the troops. Nevertheless, though there was some increase in the number of petty raids on the frontier, relations with the Chinese frontier officers were satisfactory. Officials of both Governments met near Namhkam in January 1904, and were able to settle amicably most of the pending claims against Chinese subjects. Some later cases were compounded by His Majesty's Consul at Têngyüeh in communication with the *Taotai*. Altogether the Chinese authorities paid damages or restored cattle to the value of nearly Rs. 3,000. A noteworthy event of the year was the extension, with the consent of the Chinese authorities, of the mule road from Bhamo as far as the Manwaing plain beyond the Chinese frontier. A meeting between the Civil Officer, Kamaing, and the independent Chief of Ningting, in the Hukawng Valley, resulted in a good understanding on the difficult question of runaway slaves. The settlement of forest reserves in the Bhamo district, which was postponed in the previous year, was successfully carried out, and was made the occasion of an attempt to encourage the Kachins to abandon shifting cultivation and cultivate irrigable land. Four reserves were settled in the Myitkyina district during the year. In that district there has

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

been a large and satisfactory increase in the revenue from india-rubber. Trans-frontier trade is improving, but only slowly. In order to assist in the development of this route the Government of India have accepted a proposal to grant, with certain exceptions, a drawback of seven-eighths of the sea customs duty on goods imported by sea into Rangoon and re-exported to China *viâ* Bhamo and Têngyüeh. To facilitate the working of this scheme a bonded warehouse under the control of the Customs department has been opened at Bhamo. The number of violent crimes decreased, the aggregate in the Myitkyina district in the previous year having been somewhat abnormal. The total number of criminal cases tried by the Courts in each of the districts concerned is, however, greater than in the previous year. Considerable activity was shown by Civil Officers, and especially by the Civil Officer, Sima, in the arrest of opium smugglers, and the seizures of illicit opium were large. The measures taken for the registration and licensing of firearms were much more effectual than in previous years.

Condition of the People.

8. The remarks under this head on page 28 of the Report for 1901-02 apply to the current year. There was no check to the steady advance in the prosperity of the country.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES.

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1904.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1904.

Nineteenth issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1899-1900 to 1903-04. Part I, Tables VA and B and VIA and B.

Realization of the Revenue.

Amounts recovered and outstanding.

9. The total demand of land revenue proper assessed during the year was Rs. 2,18,15,715. With the exception of Rs. 46,471 the whole amount was collected before the end of the year. The collections were nearly 20 lakhs more than in the previous year. The outstandings on account of capitation-tax in Lower Burma on an assessment of Rs. 49,13,655 amounted to Rs. 52 only, while out of Rs. 46,41,173 *thathameda* assessed in Upper Burma Rs. 29,222 had been remitted and a sum of Rs. 723 was outstanding at the close of the year. The fishery revenue amounted to Rs. 29,07,886, of which Rs. 31,050 remained outstanding.

Coercive processes.

10. The total amount of land revenue of all kinds for which application for coercive processes was made was Rs. 6,34,034 as compared with Rs. 8,23,388 in the previous year, and the amount of revenue realized thereby was Rs. 5,56,677. The revenue courts issued 35,779 notices to defaulters and 19,946 warrants of attachment of property. In 1,094 cases the property attached was sold. Warrants of arrest numbered 14,675, and 6,883 persons were arrested and 78 committed to jail. Nearly 88 per cent. of the revenue for which processes were issued was realized.

Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to survey.

11. Demarcation work was continued in the Pakôkku district, and an area of 931 square miles completed at a cost of Rs. 4,097. Work was confined to the Seikpyu and Pauk townships, the former of which is now finished and the latter still in hand. In Tavoy an area of 21 square miles was demarcated at a cost of Rs. 408 by a small staff for a local survey party which operated there during the year. In Mandalay 51 square miles were demarcated according to village boundaries in connection with revision survey operations which were being carried on by a special staff. No extra cost was incurred on this as the work was carried out by the existing staff. For the work of the special local survey party operating in the Katha district advance demarcation was done by Township Officers and Land Records Inspectors, assisted by Inspectors belonging to the Settlement party which was at work in the district at the time. The total area completed was 118 square miles at a cost of Rs. 1,492. About 9 square miles comprising the extended limits of the Rangoon Municipality are in progress of demarcation for a large scale survey.

Survey of India.

12. No. 7 Party of the Survey of India completed 560 square miles of traverses in the Myaing and Seikpyu townships of the Pakôkku district, and 221 square miles in the Ye-u subdivision of the Shwebo district. It also finished the cadastral survey of 301 square miles in the Pakôkku and Myaing townships of Pakôkku and 507 square miles of scattered villages in Shwebo. The cost during the field-season for traversing was Rs. 46,081 and for the detail survey Rs. 66,397, while the estimated cost of the entire work of the recess-season is Rs. 94,000. The total cost, actual and estimated, of the combined operations thus amounts to Rs. 2,06,478.

Survey by local parties.

13. Owing to numerous changes in field boundaries and to large extensions of cultivation it was found necessary to revise the surveys in the Danubyu and Yandoon townships of the Ma-ubin district before the re-settlement proposed in 1904-05. The work was carried out by three Inspectors and 22 Surveyors under the Superintendent of Land Records, and 366 square miles, including 112,782

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

acres of cultivation, were surveyed at a cost of Rs. 23,000. Smaller staffs resurveyed 49 square miles containing 20,037 acres in Mandalay at a cost of Rs. 8,000 and 35 square miles containing 17,000 acres in Kyauksè at a cost of Rs. 3,400. Certain islands in the Irrawaddy from Mandalay to Myingyan, and the Mandalay canal tract, are surveyed afresh each year owing to constant changes. The settlement pending in Katha necessitated the surveys, mostly original, of 88 square miles containing 16,605 acres of cultivation, and this work was done by local parties at a cost of Rs. 19,203. In Tavoy district, which is to be settled this year, 15 square miles containing 6,429 acres of cultivation were surveyed for the first time at a cost of Rs. 3,676. The large scale survey of Tavoy town was continued and 1,774 acres mapped at a cost to the Municipality of Rs. 1,304. In 22 districts special staffs were employed on the survey of *pottas*, partly on regular pay, but chiefly by payment on the piece-work system. The total number of cases dealt with was 16,007, the area surveyed 201,521 acres, and the cost of the operations Rs. 85,102. The staffs engaged consisted in all of 29 Inspectors and 197 Surveyors, working for varying periods. The fees realized came to Rs. 1,04,194, mostly at a rate of 8 annas per acre. The largest areas surveyed were in Amherst (57,433 acres), Pegu (30,215), Toungoo (25,940) and Pyapôn (20,543).

Settlements.

Original settlements.

14. Original settlement operations were in progress in the Myaungmya, Pyapôn, Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Prome districts of Lower Burma and the Shwebo and Katha districts of Upper Burma. The total cost during the year was Rs. 2,14,669, and the cultivated area dealt with 474,698 acres. The cost per acre varied from $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas in Pyapôn and Myaungmya to $18\frac{1}{4}$ in Katha. The last figure, however, was abnormal, and the cost of an Upper Burma settlement may be ordinarily taken as 6 or 7 annas. The Katha operations were considerably delayed by sickness in the staff, the district being an unhealthy one. A special report on land tenures in Katha was submitted by the Settlement Officer and has furnished Government with data for settling the much-vexed questions relating to them. The new rates proposed in Myaungmya and Pyapôn were sanctioned during the year and came into force on the 1st July 1904, over a cultivated area of 235,995 acres. The settlement resulted in an increase of Rs. 4,65,108. There has been a large influx of population into these districts, which were but a few years ago covered with tidal forest. The average enhancement per acre was Re. 1, and the cost As 5.

Revision settlements.

15. The revision of the rates fixed in 1888 in the south-east of the Akyab district was completed during the year, and resulted in an increase of Rs. 1,80,522, or 33 per cent., on a cultivated area of 297,507 acres. The average cost per acre was $1\frac{1}{4}$ annas. Revision settlements were also in progress in Myaungmya, where 103,043 acres were dealt with at a cost of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas per acre, and Kyauksè and Mandalay, where 169,478 acres were re-settled at an average cost of 4 annas.

Summary settlements.

16. In Lower Burma the summary settlement of a compact area in the Akyab district, measuring 14,972 acres, was carried through at the low rate of $1\frac{1}{4}$ annas per acre. Summary settlements in Upper Burma were somewhat expensive. They dealt with large areas which contained scattered blocks of cultivation. In the Lower Chindwin 25,031 acres cost 5 annas an acre, and in Meiktila 8,492 acres cost on the average 6 annas. The increase of revenue on a total of 199,066 acres settled in this and previous years in the Lower Chindwin was Rs. 66,183, or 30 per cent., and on 18,230 acres in the Upper Chindwin Rs. 3,399, or 5 per cent.

Land Records.

Area under supplementary survey.

17. The total area under supplementary survey was 41,919 square miles, with a total assessment of Rs. 2,22,03,617. The increase in the former over last year was 4,285 square miles, and in the latter close upon 18 lakhs. The main reason for the increase in the area dealt with by the supplementary survey is the addition of the Magwe and Lower Chindwin districts, which were under settlement during the previous year and thus not taken into account before, and the inclusion of 120 square miles in Sandoway, which were cadastrally surveyed two years

previously and have now been brought under supplementary survey for the first time. The other changes are minor ones. The total cost on account of superintendence and inspection amounts to Rs. 3,71,035 and for the survey staff to Rs. 6,21,539; in all Rs. 9,92,574 against Rs. 9,10,363 the year before. The cost per square mile was Rs. 23·68, or 4·26 per cent. on the assessment, both slightly lower than last year.

Transfers of land.

18. The area sold during the year increased from 465,805 to 554,213 acres and that redeemed from 211,658 to 269,345, while the mortgaged area decreased from 397,852 to 293,159. The increase in sales is ascribed in the Pyapôn district to rampant speculation, which also produced a large number of nominal redemptions as the mortgage-deeds changed hands. In the Myaungmya district the increase is attributed to the growing dislike of the transferees for the old Burmese custom of conditional sale, whereby land, though nominally sold outright, could be redeemed by the transferor or his heirs after an indefinite period, extending sometimes over several generations. These conditional sales are, of course, really mortgages, and were shown as such. It is probable that many such mortgages are now shown as sales, a separate agreement for redemption, not enforceable by law but adhered to in practice, being made between the parties.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

19. The area granted or leased for cultivation was 110,776 acres, rather more than in the previous year. More than half of this was assigned in the districts of Amherst, Toungoo and Thatôn, all in the Tenasserim Division. In the Pegu Division there was a falling off except in Prome. In the Pyapôn district the number of applications awaiting disposal at the end of the year was no less than 1,220. Delays seem inevitable under the present system, and in the Pegu Division it has been decided to suspend the issue of grants experimentally for two years. Before a grant can issue the land must be inspected by the revenue officer to enable him to determine the period of exemption, and it must also be surveyed so that it may be afterwards identified. In some cases, too, rival claims have to be considered.

Revenue-free grants.

20. One hundred and seventy acres were granted revenue free for religious edifices. As usual the bulk of this area was granted in Tharrawaddy and Hanthawaddy for the consecration of *theins* and the erection of monasteries. Of 36·47 acres granted revenue free for public purposes 12 acres represent the area of the grant to the Roman Catholic Mission in Mandalay town for use as a cemetery and ten acres the extent of the concession to the American Baptist Mission at Maymyo. The remaining area was granted in small lots for the erection of *zayats* or travellers' rest-houses and the digging of tanks for the supply of water.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

21. There are no such estates in Burma.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.

Landholders.

22. The area occupied by agriculturists has increased from 9½ to 10½ million acres. That occupied by resident non-agriculturists has advanced only from 608,679 to 622,651, and by non-residents from 952,316 to 985,181. The increase in the first-mentioned area is due to extensions of cultivation following a favourable season. The most marked increase was in Hanthawaddy. The proportion of non-agriculturists, however, in Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Prome, Pyapôn, Myaungmya, Thatôn and Amherst is steadily rising, and the question of an enquiry on the subject is now before the Local Government.

Tenants.

23. The number of tenants renting lands for 5 years or over has risen from 20,444 to 21,568 and those for under 5 years from 1,27,881 to 1,42,213. The number of the latter was swelled by a large influx of Chittagonians into Akyab. Other districts in which there was a considerable increase in tenancies were Pyapôn, Bassein, Myaungmya and Thayetmyo.

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REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for 1903.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for 1903.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for 1903.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for 1903.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for 1903.
Note on the Working of the Registration Department in Burma during 1903.
Report on the Working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Ninth Issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-04 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Legislating Authority.

The Report for 1901-02, pp. 33 and 34, should be referred to for information under this head.

Course of Legislature.

Acts passed.

24. The Bills to amend the Upper Burma Towns Regulation and the Burma Municipal Act, the provisions of which were described in last year's Report, became law during the year as Burma Acts I & II of 1903. Several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government, and three, the provisions of which are summarized below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council towards the end of 1903.

Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act

25. The Act to amend the Rangoon Police Act, I of 1904, empowers the criminal courts of Rangoon town to require a person convicted of an offence under section 30 or 31 of the amended Act to execute a bond with or without sureties for his good behaviour for a period not exceeding one year. The above sections have been found of great value in the prevention of crime in Rangoon town, but the majority of persons convicted under these provisions are habitual criminals who again begin to prey on the public on their release from jail after undergoing imprisonment for three months, the maximum term which may be imposed under these sections. In several cases a conviction under section 30 was the third conviction of the same person under the same section within a period of twelve months, and the further power conferred by the amending Act is necessary to protect the public from the depredations of such persons.

The Burma Towns and Village Laws Amendment Act.

26. The object of the Act to amend various enactments relating to towns and villages in Burma (II of 1904) is to define the term *pwè* as used in these enactments and to make it clear that the provisions requiring a license to hold a *pwè* apply to native cart, pony, or boat races, as well as to entertainments of a theatrical nature. Power is also taken to enlarge the definition further so as to apply the provisions, in particular localities, to any form of public entertainment or gathering which may hereafter require similar regulation. The amendments will also remove the cause of the conflicting decisions as to the meaning of the term *pwè*, which, by a full bench decision of the Chief Court of Lower Burma, had been restricted to entertainments of a theatrical nature, whilst the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma had held that the term applied also to pony races and other similar gatherings. Cart races, pony races, and boat races in this province are fruitful causes of crime, and it appears that, during the five years from 1897 to 1901, in 606 cases acts of violence were committed at *pwès* which were not of a theatrical nature, causing the death of 33 persons, serious hurt to 256 and simple hurt to 317; such meetings are, moreover, not infrequently promoted by gamblers who hope to collect a large crowd and use the race meeting as a cloak for extensive gambling operations. Under these circumstances

it is necessary that the local authorities should have sufficient notice of an intended meeting to enable proper police arrangements to be made, and should also have the power to prevent or curtail any meeting, especially if not promoted for the *bonâ fide* advancement of legitimate sport under the guidance of respectable persons.

The Burma Excise Law Amendment Act.

27. The Burma Excise Law Amendment Act, III of 1904, authorizes the imposition of restrictions on the sale of cocaine by empowering the Local Government to declare by notification additional intoxicating drugs of which the sale and possession may be restricted under Chapters III and VII and other provisions of the Excise Act, 1896. The Bill was drafted in consequence of the large increase in the sale of cocaine in Rangoon town and the noxious results found attendant on the use of the drug, which when taken habitually causes emaciation, sleeplessness, and loss of memory and mental control. The effects of the drug are said to be infinitely worse than those following the excessive use of opium, being more permanent and often resulting in insanity. The Bill also provides for the control of places where liquor is sold. Moreover, the Local Government desires to put a stop to the evils which have been found to attend the employment of barmaids in Rangoon. The practice has only recently attained any considerable dimensions, and the change in the law will not involve undue interference with the rights of individuals or with the interests of trade.

General Acts affecting Burma

28. Fourteen General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year.

Upper Burma.

29. Two Regulations, amending the Upper Burma Land and Revenue and Civil Courts Regulations, were enacted during the year by the Governor-General in Council. The former enabled the Local Government to confer on Revenue officers any power exercised by a civil court in the trial of suits; the latter brought the right of second appeal more into conformity with the Civil Procedure Code.

Enactments extended to the Shan States, Chin and Kachin Hills.

30. The provisions of the Burma Ferries Act, II of 1898, were extended to the Shan State of Möng Mit with its dependency Möng Lang; and the Burma Forest Act, IV of 1902, was declared applicable to Chins in the Chin Hills under the provisions of the Chin Hills Regulation, 1896, and to members of a hill-tribe in a hill tract under the provisions of the Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation, 1895.

Police.

Administration.

31. Colonel S. C. F. Peile, C.I.E., I.A., was Inspector-General throughout the year. He was assisted by Deputy Inspectors-General of Civil and Military Police and Supply and Clothing.

Strength and distribution of the force.

32. The sanctioned strength of the regular force at the close of the year, excluding Rangoon town and the railway police, was 13,202, distributed among 465 police-stations and 232 outposts. The sanctioned strength was increased by 10 head constables, 37 sergeants and 210 constables, the largest addition being in the Pegu district. The formation of the new district of Pyapôn made an addition necessary in the list of District Superintendents, who now number 40. An important reform effected during the year was the conversion of 48 outposts, situated in places remote from their police-stations, into second class stations. The effect of this was to empower the officer in charge to investigate offences and release accused persons on bail. An outpost officer can do neither, and much delay in investigation and hardship to accused persons will thus be avoided.

Cost.

33. The total cost of the force was Rs. 38,21,884, of which Rs. 1,34,231 were contributed by local funds. An increase of slightly over a lakh was due mainly to large expenditure on cottages for the men.

Recruiting and conduct.

34. The force was 544 below strength at the end of the year. Recruiting was difficult owing to the high rate of wages prevailing as compared with the pay of the constable, and the deficiency was increased by the large number of resignations, desertions and dismissals. No less than 29 officers and 532 men were dismissed and 353 officers and 1,944 men punished departmentally, figures which led the Lieutenant-Governor to doubt whether the police were treated with sufficient consideration by their officers. In the Tharrawaddy district it was considered

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necessary to dismiss 40 men out of 350. The Thatôn police were unfavourably reported on, and revenue exceeding Rs. 5,000 was stolen from the police-station at Cheduba in Kyaukpyu district.

Training.

35. Nearly two thousand recruits entered the training depôts during the year for the six months' course, and 1,084, or 89 *per cent.* of those who appeared for examination, passed the prescribed tests. In Akyab and Thatôn less than 40 *per cent.* passed. The number of old constables brought in for a month's training during the year was 6,406, of whom 87 *per cent.* passed. More than half of those appearing at Magwe failed to qualify. Musketry training was interfered with by the want of ammunition for Sniders, pending the re-arming of the force with the smooth-bore Martini-Henry carbine.

Buildings.

36. Good progress was made in the housing of the men, and it is hoped that the removal of the deficiency in house-accommodation will increase the popularity of the service, the force consisting largely of married men.

Inspection.

37. The Inspector-General visited eleven Upper Burma and nine Lower Burma districts. The Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Police made a very large number of inspections. District Superintendents and Subdivisional Police Officers inspected almost every police-station and out-post in the province.

Cognizable crime.

38. The police investigated 49,366 cases during the year. Of these 34,634, as compared with 32,357 in the previous year, were found by the magistrates to relate to real offences, the remainder being either false charges or reports made through mistake of fact or law. The number of murders by dacoits or robbers increased from 13 to 20, and the total number of violent crimes from 649 to 801; hurt by dangerous weapon from 1,726 to 1,837, dacoities from 57 to 76, robberies from 230 to 323, cattle thefts from 2,145 to 2,523, and ordinary thefts from 9,178 to 9,887. The growth of crime was most marked in the Tharrawaddy district. Cases under the Excise and Opium Acts rose from 2,947 to 3,471, owing mainly to greater activity on the part of the excise staff. The most serious cases were an attack by five men, armed with a gun, on a house in Kyaukpyu district, in which a villager was killed: and the plundering of a village in the Amherst district by a gang of 11 dacoits carrying six guns, who removed property to the value of Rs. 15,000. Firearms were used altogether in 40 cases, of which 28 occurred in the lower province.

Detection and prevention of crime.

39. On the whole, detection has kept pace with the increase in crime. The percentage of conviction in true cognizable cases of all kinds investigated by the police was 67. In classes I to V, which include all offences against property, 52 *per cent.* of the cases investigated were detected as against 51 *per cent.* in the previous year. In violent crime and cattle-theft the percentages were 57 and 42 as compared with 56 and 41 of the previous year. The number of persons called upon to furnish security for their good behaviour was 2,378, or 79 *per cent.* of the number arrested. Little use was made of the orders empowering District Superintendents to institute proceedings of this class without the sanction of a magistrate.

Surveillance of criminals and beat patrols.

40. At the end of the year there were 20,822 persons entered in the police registers as habitual criminals. Of these 6,950 were in jail and the residence of 3,546 was unknown. Of the registered criminals 1,319 were re-convicted during the year. The number of conditionally released convicts at the close of the year was 115, an unusually large figure mainly due to clemency shown at the time of the Coronation. Reports from magistrates and police officers show that the beat patrol system is well suited to the requirements of the province, but that the arrangements are too rigid and leave insufficient scope for the intelligence of the station officer. Reporting of petty offences by patrol constables also requires to be discouraged, their duty being not detective but preventive. The relations between the police and the village headmen appear on the whole to have been excellent. The central bureau for the identification of criminals did good work during the year.

Rangoon Town Police.

41. The police in Rangoon town are excluded from the figures given above. The sanctioned strength was 960 and the actual strength at the end of the year 956. Of these 37 were European, 783 Indian and 136 Burmese. A small addi-

tion was made during the year owing to an extension of the municipal boundaries. The total cost was Rs. 3,41,570. The number of true cases dealt with rose from 9,609 to 12,241. This was mainly owing to greater energy shown in the suppression of public nuisances, but there was a pronounced increase in crimes against property. Two dacoities were committed in the town. Robberies increased from 9 to 18, house-breaking cases from 55 to 69, and thefts from 659 to 818. The last, however, include many cases in which in the opinion of the Commissioner of Police investigation should have been refused. Orders have been issued defining more clearly than before the circumstances under which this course may be taken. The conduct of the force, especially of the European members, was on the whole satisfactory.

Railway Police.

42. The railway force consisted of 6 inspectors, 9 head constables, 78 sergeants and 279 constables, all under a District Superintendent. There was an increase of 41 during the year owing to the opening of new sections. The cost of the force was Rs. 1,08,736. About one-third of the men were Indian. The force dealt with 619 offences, of which 7 were crimes of violence.

Military Police.

43. The sanctioned strength of the military police was 15,197 and the cost Rs. 49,60,608. The force was 135 below strength at the end of the year. Of the total number 3,909 were employed on treasury and escort duty in Lower Burma under the orders of the District Superintendents of Police. The remainder, with duties of a more military nature, were distributed over Upper Burma under ten Battalion Commandants.

Village Administration.

44. Both village headmen and their assistants are invested with the powers of a police officer, but they are in no way subordinated to the regular police. The headmen are empowered to try petty criminal cases and are directly responsible for the collection of the revenue. Their number decreased from 18,885 to 18,506, chiefly owing to the abolition of separate charges in Kyaukpyu and Shwebo. Of the whole number 6,556 were subordinate to the old circle thugyis, now being gradually abolished, and most of these, while assisting in the collection of revenue, drew no commission, the circle thugyi receiving the whole. Special criminal powers, including authority to fine up to Rs. 50 and inflict a month's imprisonment, were exercised by 556 headmen during the year, and 779 were empowered to try civil suits up to the value of Rs. 20. The total amount of fines inflicted by the headmen was Rs. 1,05,558, a decrease of Rs. 7,968 from the previous year. Over 6,000 cases tried were examined by Deputy Commissioners, and 90 *per cent.* of the decisions confirmed. While the conduct of headmen was in the main satisfactory, there was a general failure to assist the police in excise and opium cases. It was found necessary to punish 977 headmen, an increase of 42 over the previous year. Of these 309 were dismissed and the rest suspended or fined. Rewards for good work were granted in 521 cases. Under the special provisions for enforcing village responsibility existing in Burma 176 villages were fined Rs. 44,361 for suppression of evidence and harbouring or failing to arrest criminals, and 110 were fined amounts aggregating Rs. 14,354 under the Track Law, which throws on the village the responsibility for stolen property tracked to within its boundaries.

Criminal Justice.

Courts.

45. The disposal of criminal business in Lower Burma was in the hands of nine Judges of Sessions Courts, 21 District Magistrates, and 200 Subordinate Magistrates, under a Chief Court consisting of four judges. The Hon'ble Sir H. Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., I.C.S., was Chief Judge throughout the year except between the 17th August and 17th November, when the Hon'ble Mr. C. E. Fox, *Barrister-at-Law*, officiated for him. In Upper Burma there were five Sessions Judges, 16 District Magistrates, and 169 subordinate magistrates under a Judicial Commissioner. Mr. Harvey Adamson, C.S.I., I.C.S., was Judicial Commissioner until the 25th November, when he was relieved by Mr. Irwin, C.S.I., I.C.S. Before the end of the year the Headquarters Assistant Commissioners in most of the more important districts in Lower Burma were invested with powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure as a measure of relief to District Magistrates

III—PROTECTION. and Sessions Judges. District Magistrates again mentioned the valuable assistance rendered by the Benches of Honorary Magistrates, especially in the trial of offences under the Municipal Act.

Work done. 46. The courts of Lower Burma disposed of 59,230 regular cases and 1,133 relating to miscellaneous business. In addition to these 4,948 regular appeals were heard. The Upper Burma courts tried 16,845 regular and 1,480 miscellaneous cases, and heard 1,520 regular appeals. Altogether 133,719 persons were under trial during the year. In Lower Burma original regular cases increased by 5,081 and regular appeals by 330. In the upper province the number was nearly the same as in the previous year. In some districts the District Magistrate was overburdened with executive and revenue work and was in need of relief as regards the trial of cases. The District Magistrate of Prome tried no less than 101 important cases. Appeals from second and third class magistrates were in certain districts heard by special assistants. District Magistrates called up for examination 8,196 cases, Sessions Judges 1,557, and the Chief Court and Judicial Commissioner 2,800. Each trial lasted on the average ten days in Lower Burma and nine in Upper Burma. There were 3,883 persons under trial at the close of the year.

Results of trials. 47. Of 93,596 persons tried by magistrates in Lower Burma 62·2 *per cent.* were convicted and 37·8 acquitted or discharged. The proportion of convictions was lowest in Hanthawaddy (51·26) and Tavoy (52). In Upper Burma the percentage of convictions was 63·32, and was lowest in Meiktila (48·35), where gambling cases were instituted without sufficient care. The statistics show compounded cases as acquittals. If such cases are excluded from the Upper Burma returns the percentage of convictions would be 68, and the proportion of successful prosecutions, including compounded cases, would be higher still. The percentage of convictions in sessions courts in Lower Burma was 62, and in the upper province 61·14.

Results of appeals and revisions. 48. District Magistrates and their assistants confirmed the sentence in 56 *per cent.* of the appeals from second and third class magistrates which came before them. The proportion in sessions courts, which ordinarily dealt with appeals from 1st class magistrates, was 72, in the Chief Court of Lower Burma 77, and before the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, 75. These figures do not include appeals by Government against orders of acquittal, which were disposed of in 19 cases in Lower Burma and were successful in all except two. Of the cases dealt with in revision the orders were confirmed in 89 *per cent.* In 123 cases the sentence was enhanced.

Punishments. 49. Out of a total of 78,640 persons convicted 93 were sentenced to death and 347 to transportation for seven years and upwards, four-fifths of these cases being in Lower Burma. Imprisonment for terms exceeding seven years was inflicted in 24 cases, and between two and seven years in 889. Sentences of two years and under numbered 5,443, whipping 3,216, and fine 59,838. In 1,287 cases solitary confinement was imposed. There is a tendency to pass severer sentences of whipping than formerly. Steps have been taken to secure as far as possible that whippings should be performed by trained agency at district headquarters when they cannot be carried out at a jail. Twenty boys were sent to the Insein Reformatory School. The number of first offenders called upon to give security on conviction in lieu of being sent to jail rose in Lower Burma from 99 to 235, but fell to 95 in the upper province, where a ruling of the Judicial Commissioner, since cancelled, restricted the application of section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code to youthful offenders.

Special provisions of law. 50. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to calling upon them to give security for their good behaviour fell from 3,044 to 2,823 in the lower and rose from 503 to 577 in the upper province. Altogether 3,400 were proceeded against, 1,135 found security, 1,446 went to jail, and 735 were discharged.

Prisons.

51. The jail population at the beginning of the year was 11,168, including 128 females, or 563 less than in 1902. At the end of the year it had risen to

11,669. The number of admissions was 30,773, including 990 females, against 29,169 in the previous year. Nevertheless, the daily average number decreased, owing to the greater proportion of short-term prisoners, from 11,525 (128 females) to 11,187 (113 females), and was smaller than in any of the eight previous years. Owing chiefly to clemency shown at the time of the Coronation the number of prisoners released by order of Government on grounds other than that of sickness was no less than 1,183. III.—PROTECTION.

52. Of the 16,098 male and 646 female prisoners admitted during the year, 2,140 males and 27 females had been convicted once, 788 males and 9 females twice and 719 males and 10 females more than twice. The percentage of admissions of prisoners shown as previously convicted varied from 42·44 in Bassein to 5·30 in Bhamo, the average provincial ratio being 22·06 against 22·95 in 1902. All the habituals except 41 were identified before conviction. Of the remainder 36 were identified from jail records and the other five on their own confession. **Habituals.**

53. The number of prison offences rose from 38,701 to 42,913. The increase is reported to be due to greater vigilance. Fifty cases out of the total were dealt with by the criminal courts, the rest by the Superintendents. Of the total number of punishments 9,783 were inflicted on convict officers, who averaged 1,980 in number, against 9,357 in the previous year. Their conduct, however, is reported to have been generally satisfactory. The number of prisoners on whom fetters were imposed as a punishment rose from 2,513 to 4,057, but on the other hand the number fettered for safety fell from 3,071 to 1,889 in consequence of remarks made by the Inspector-General of Prisons in the previous year's report. **Discipline.**

Three prisoners escaped during the year, two from Shwebo and one from Toungoo. The last was re-captured.

54. The gross cost of up-keep of the jails decreased from Rs. 7,86,585 to Rs. 6,84,233, and the nett from Rs. 5,85,540 to Rs. 4,97,333. Nearly half the decrease is in dieting charges, and is due, it is reported, to stricter check exercised by the head office on the purchase of food-stuffs and to the use of cheaper food. There were also considerable savings on establishment and hospital charges. The profits from manufactures fell off from Rs. 2,01,045 to Rs. 1,86,900, owing mainly to the loss of expert workers by the Coronation releases and large transfers to the Andamans, and to a rise in the price of timber. The average nett cost per prisoner nevertheless decreased from Rs. 50-13-0 to Rs. 44-8-0. The diminution is partly a matter of accounts, but in the main represents a real saving. The value of labour supplied to other departments and the profits of the jail branch of the Government printing press, which amounted to Rs. 1,28,584 but were only partly derived from convict labour, are not included in the earnings. **Financial.**

55. Practically all vegetables required for the consumption of the prisoners were obtained from the jail gardens, which also realized Rs. 8,724 by sales to the public. Six *per cent.* of the prisoners were employed in the gardens and farms. **Gardens.**

56. The death-rate rose from 15·88 to 17·07, but is lower than in any of the eight years preceding 1901. The number of admissions to hospital per thousand fell from 537 to 474, and is the lowest on record. The most sickly jail was that at Mandalay, where the water-supply was bad. This has been remedied by an artesian well being sunk in the compound of Government house, and it is expected that the supply of water from this source will bring about an improvement. The substitution of *pèyin* and *pègya* for *dâl* and of cotton-seed oil for sesamum gave good results, but *pyaungzan* was condemned as causing bowel complaints. Over 2,000 prisoners, or about 12½ *per cent.*, confessed to being habitual consumers of opium. In the Bhamo jail the percentage was 43. **Health of prisoners**

Civil Justice.

57. Civil justice in Lower Burma was administered by six divisional, 26 district, and 175 subordinate judges under the Chief Court. There was also a judge in the Arakan Hill Tracts not subject to the Chief Court. In Upper Burma there were under the Judicial Commissioner four divisional, 20 district, and 135 subor- **Courts.**

III.—PROTECTION.

dinate judges. Four of the last were specially empowered to hear appeals. The establishment of a separate judicial service is still under consideration. Meanwhile Subdivisional and Township Officers in all the heavier townships of Lower Burma are relieved of most of their civil work by specially appointed judges, while in two districts of Upper and 13 of Lower Burma civil appeals are disposed of by Assistant or Extra Assistant Commissioners specially empowered to hear them. Sundry proposals for increases of the number and pay of clerks in subdivisional and township offices were sanctioned during the year, and a graded service of interpreters for Rangoon town was organized. Some improvements were made in court buildings, but the accommodation is still inadequate. It has been arranged that plans for new buildings should in future be submitted through the Chief Court.

Work done.

58. The total number of suits instituted was 68,656. Of these 47,970 were in Lower Burma. The Rangoon Small Cause Court accounted for 7,267, and of the rest all but 10,386 were disposed of in the Township Courts. There were 2,134 suits for immovable property, and 1,320 mortgage suits. Nearly all the rest were for money or movables. Suits of over Rs. 500 in value numbered 4,079; of the remainder nearly half were for Rs. 50 or less. There has been a general increase of litigation in both provinces, only Myingyan showing a decline. In Tharrawaddy it increased 25 *per cent.*, and in Akyab 20 *per cent.* The percentage of increase for Lower Burma was 7, and for Upper Burma 4. The number of appeals from decrees rose from 5,024 to 5,377, and of applications for execution from 33,987 to 36,445. The average duration of contested suits in Lower Burma, excluding the Chief Court and the Rangoon Court of Small Causes, was 49 days, and in Upper Burma 38. For uncontested suits the averages were 27 and 25. At the close of the year there were 5,113 cases pending, 1,113 of them for over three months.

Results of litigation.

59. Out of a total of 20,859 contested suits disposed of, 14,152, or 68 *per cent.*, were decided in favour of the plaintiff, and 6,707, or 32 *per cent.*, for the defendant. Of the other suits before the courts 14,461 were disposed of without trial (*i.e.*, settled out of Court), 4,801 compromised and the agreement recorded by the Court, 13,870 decreed on confession, 14,590 decreed *ex parte*, and 475 dismissed *ex parte*. Only 71 were referred to arbitration. Of 5,377 appeals, heard mostly by the District Judges and their assistants, 2,661 resulted in the decree of the lower court being confirmed. In 341 cases it was modified and in 1,123 reversed, while 153 cases were remanded to the lower court.

Execution of decrees.

60. Of 36,445 applications for execution 17,129 resulted in satisfaction being obtained wholly or in part, while 13,582 were wholly infructuous. The proportion of infructuous applications in Lower Burma was again large. In 2,734 cases the judgment-debtor was arrested and in 589 imprisoned. Immovable property was sold in 2,042 cases.

Registration.

Changes in the Registration Law and Rules.

61. The only change in the rules was the insertion of a new provision (Rule 48A) requiring registering officers to take the thumb impressions of illiterate executants and of persons not personally known to them. A new and simplified form of catalogue was prescribed, and the miscellaneous rulings and orders which from time to time had issued in the form of letters and circulars were gathered together and republished under the title of "Lower Burma Registration of Deeds Directions, 1903." Stamps for impressing skeleton forms of endorsement were introduced into some of the larger offices.

Number of offices.

62. One hundred and forty-six offices were open for the registration of deeds. During the year an office was opened at the headquarters of the new Moulmeingyun township in the Myaungmya district.

Documents registered.

63. The total number of documents registered rose from Rs. 35,595 to Rs. 40,731, of which Rs. 33,441 were in Lower Burma. The value rose from Rs. 4,51,89,322 to Rs. 6,61,34,044. In Lower Burma the value of property (immovable) of which registration was compulsory rose from over 3½ to over 5½ crores, though the number of documents only increased from 24,359 to 29,221.

The increase was in instruments of sale, the value of which nearly doubled, and of mortgage, gifts showing a large decline. Optional registrations of deeds affecting immovable property were somewhat fewer (637 as compared with 706), but the value of the property affected was doubled. The increase is generally ascribed to the stimulus given to speculation in paddy by the abnormally high prices which obtained at the beginning of the year, but in one or two districts other causes were at work. In Hanthawaddy there was a considerable amount of speculation in land suitable for industrial purposes along the railway on the outskirts of Rangoon. In Rangoon town the boom in land which started with the acquisitions for the Chief Court site revived, and many building sites changed hands more than once, each fresh sale at greatly enhanced prices. Instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards increased 28 *per cent.*, but instruments of mortgage compulsorily registered were only 14 *per cent.* more than in 1902. The increase in sales was probably due to extensive speculation in land, and except in Pegu apparently does not indicate that they are displacing mortgages in popular favour. In Upper Burma, beyond a slight increase in the value of the property affected by registered deeds, there is nothing worthy of note in the figures for the year. Generally speaking, the slow progress of registration in the upper province was due to the poor harvest of 1902 in the unirrigated tracts. It is, as a rule, only in the irrigated tracts, where land is valuable, that a poor harvest means an increase of mortgages and registration.

Receipts and expenditure.

64. The income from fees increased by nearly 26 *per cent.* (from Rs. 1,09,980 to Rs. 1,38,508) in Lower Burma and 5 *per cent.* (Rs. 20,324 to Rs. 21,322) in Upper Burma. Expenditure (Rs. 46,971) increased by Rs. 2,550 in the lower province and decreased in the upper. In both provinces there was an increase in the cost of permanent establishment due to the further substitution of salaried clerks for clerks remunerated out of fees.

Municipal Administration.

65. There were 41 municipalities in the province, of which eight were administered under the Upper Burma Regulation. The number given in last year's report excluded Rangoon, and there has been no change. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 6-8-4 in Rangoon and Rs. 1-10-3 in other municipalities, where it ranged from Rs. 4 in Moulmein to As. 4 in Taungdwingyi. The main sources of income of each municipality and the manner in which the money was spent is shown in Chapter V.

Rangoon.

66. In Rangoon the ordinary revenue increased by a lakh and a third to Rs. 23,32,391. An increase of over a lakh from taxation was attained without any general revision of assessment or alteration of the rates. The most important works in hand were the Hlawga water-works, dealt with in Chapter VI under "Sanitation," and the reclamation of town lands, on which an expenditure of over 3¾ lakhs was incurred during the year. The fund for the latter is excluded from the municipal accounts. More progress was made than in the preceding year, but it has been found impossible to work up to the programme. Arrangements for the introduction of electric lighting and electric tramways, made satisfactory progress, and both schemes will, it is hoped, be working by the end of 1906. Land was acquired behind the town-hall at a cost of Rs. 1,69,182 for the extension of the municipal offices. The new air-compressing machinery in connection with the Shone system of sewage removal worked well. A 4½ *per cent.* loan of 15 lakhs was raised during the year at a premium of Rs. 69,747. The accepted tenders varied from 104½ to 106 *per cent.*, the average being Rs. 104-10-4.

Akyab.

67. At Akyab plans and estimates were under preparation for a water-works scheme, which is expected to cost about three lakhs. A revision of the assessment-rolls was carried out during the year. The protection of the town from the encroachments of the sea and the extension of the principal market engaged the attention of the Committee.

Pegu.

68. At Pegu a 6-inch tube-well was sunk and at 360 feet reached good water, which promised to be adequate for the wants of the town. Unfortunately the pipe was soon choked with sand, and the experiment has so far proved a failure. Much of the town is reported to be in an insanitary state, but the Committee rejected a

III.—PROTECTION.

proposal to extend the scavenged area. The market has been improved and some land reclaimed near the hospital. A town survey has been sanctioned.

Prome. 69. The new water-works scheme at Prome approached completion. An expenditure of Rs. 80,000 was incurred. The works provide 400,000 gallons in 8 hours, or 20 gallons per head. The dry goods bazaar was rebuilt at a cost of over Rs. 5,000.

Bassein. 70. A disastrous fire occurred at Bassein in which 70 houses were burnt and property estimated at about 4½ lakhs destroyed. A steam motor fire-engine has been ordered at a cost of £875.

Thatôn. 71. At Thatôn a new hospital, costing Rs. 27,379, was completed and a new school building begun.

Moulmein. 72. At Moulmein revision of assessment approached completion and has so far resulted in an increase of over Rs. 19,000. It is expected that the total increase will be twice that amount. The system of street lighting by oil gas was reorganized and showed an annual saving of nearly two thousand rupees. There has hitherto been a large deficit. It is expected that the new water-works, on which 3¼ lakhs were spent during the year, will be completed by the end of 1904. A scheme for surface drainage was discussed with the Sanitary Board. There was an improvement in the financial position, and it was expected that the roads, which have been neglected for want of funds, would soon be put in order.

Mergui. 73. No progress was made with the revision of assessment at Mergui pending completion of the town survey undertaken by the Committee. The question of sanitation of the foreshore has been partly solved by compelling house-owners to make their latrines accessible by means of platforms. The idea of reclaiming the foreshore has been abandoned for the present owing to the large expenditure involved. The town is much overcrowded, and an attempt is being made to improve matters by requiring land to be given up for roads before new houses are built or, in some cases, old ones re-erected. The question of a site for a new bazaar to replace the dilapidated buildings in the Zedan quarter engaged the attention of the Committee.

Mandalay. 74. The water-scheme providing for a reservoir on Mandalay Hill at a cost of nearly 14 lakhs will probably be abandoned as too expensive. Experiments are being made in sinking wells. A loss on the bazaar owing to a fire, which necessitated a reduction of the lessee's rent, prevented the scheme for masonry drains in the business quarter being put in hand. An electric tramway system was opened in July 1904. It is expected that the new Zegyo bazaar buildings will be completed early in 1905.

Mônywa. 75. The imposition of a night conservancy rate at eight annas for each house served was sanctioned for Mônywa.

Myingyan. 76. A new fish and meat bazaar was completed at Myingyan.

Military [Volunteering.]

77. The volunteer forces consist of the Rangoon Port Defence (Artillery, Naval and Engineer Corps), the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Rifles, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles. The enrolled strength of the force on the 31st March 1904 was 2,750 active and 89 reservists against 2,602 active and 135 reservists on the same date in the previous year. Of the active volunteers 2,456 were adults and 294 cadets. The amount of capitation and other grants earned was Rs. 91,696 against Rs. 89,888 in 1902-03.

Marine.

Surveys. 78. The R.I.M.S. *Investigator* surveyed the Hinze basin and some other parts of the Tenasserim coast and then proceeded to Arakan, where she joined the *Nancowry* in a survey of the Mayu river. A number of surveys were also made in the Rangoon river by the Deputy Conservator of the Port.

Light-houses and light-vessels. 79. There are nine light-houses and two light vessels. The light-house at Amherst Point at the mouth of the Moulmein river was closed in May 1903, and

a new one at Green Island, a mile away, opened in its place. A light-house at Beacon Island off Cheduba on the Arakan coast was under construction. The receipts from light dues advanced from Rs. 4,27,124 to Rs. 4,49,109. The expenditure, apart from capital outlay, was Rs. 1,46,007.

Pilot service.

80. There were 21 pilots at Rangoon, nine at Moulmein, 3 at Akyab, and five, including a native, at Bassein. At Rangoon the Pilot Fund closed with a balance of Rs. 78,820. The pilotage earnings were Rs. 2,33,325 and the disbursements to pilots Rs. 1,47,311, a decrease from the previous year owing mainly to a reduced scale of fees.

Port Administration.

81. The ports of Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab, Bassein, Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui each had a separate port fund administered in the first four cases by the Rangoon Port Trust or the Port Officers, and in the others by the Deputy Commissioner. The Rangoon Port Trust had an income of Rs. 17,82,817, an increase of nearly two and a quarter lakhs over the previous year. The increase was general. A loan of 40 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government of India to meet expenditure on a scheme for the improvement of the port, estimated to cost in all 89 lakhs, and 30 lakhs were taken up. The health department cost Rs. 1,40,312.

Government steamers and launches.

82. One steamer of the Royal Indian Marine, the *Minto*, was on duty throughout the year and visited the light-houses and light-vessels of the province once a month. The Government river steamers *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen* and *Bhamo* carried 6,926 tons of stores and 58 lakhs of specie, besides troops, cattle, ammunition, etc. The wants of local officials were provided for by 65 launches, four sailing vessels, and three house-boats for use with district launches, at a total cost for maintenance of Rs. 4,81,713. Three launches, a tug and a house-boat were added to the fleet. The steamer *George* was condemned and sold. The *Pegu* sank but was raised. The *Waterwitch* foundered off Mônywa, and only her engines and boilers could be salved.

Commercial Marine

83. The number of vessels visiting the ports of the province rose from 7,518 to 9,392, of which 2,961 visited Rangoon. The tonnage at Rangoon was 4,149,409 out of a total of 5,844,292. The vessels entering from and clearing to foreign ports numbered 1,138, with a tonnage of 2,129,830. Of these 94 were sailing vessels. Two hundred and thirty out of the whole number were foreign, principally Norwegian, German, Austrian and French. The coasting trade employed 8,254 vessels, having a tonnage of 3,714,462. The number of sailing vessels increased largely from 1,351 to 2,418, and the tonnage rose from 56,207 to 79,685. The only serious casualty was the foundering of the ship *Laomene*, off the Alguada Reef in February 1904. The captain was censured by the Court of Enquiry for failing to exercise sufficient vigilance.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Agricultural stock. 84. There was a substantial increase in cattle (bulls, bullocks, cows and calves) from 3,548,930 to 3,850,495, and in buffaloes from 1,114,015 to 1,120,006. Goats increased from 96,637 to 112,179, ponies from 46,333 to 49,375, and sheep from 13,743 to 16,005. Cattle are most numerous in Myingyan and Pakôkku, buffaloes and goats in Akyab, and ponies in Pakôkku. There were large importations of cattle into Akyab from Chittagong.

Cattle-disease. 85. There has been no widespread epidemic of cattle-disease during the year and the health of cattle has been generally good. There was, however, a large increase of mortality from rinderpest and foot-and-mouth disease in the Irrawaddy and Tenasserim divisions and a severe outbreak of rinderpest in the remote subdivision of Gangaw in Upper Burma. Veterinary Assistants have made themselves useful chiefly in helping to enforce the segregation rules. Inoculation against rinderpest was practised in several districts, and successfully checked an outbreak in Mandalay, but failed in Bassein. There is no opposition on the part of the people. Agricultural shows were held at four centres with fair success. The total cost of the Veterinary Department was Rs. 1,21,545. Nearly a third of the total cost, and about half of the pay and travelling-allowance of subordinates, was met from local funds.

Prices. 86. The rice crop of the year was a bumper one, and in spite of very large exports to the Straits, China, and Japan the price never exceeded Rs. 105. The market opened in January at Rs. 86 to Rs. 90, rose towards the end of the month to Rs. 89—94, fell early in March to Rs. 84—5, when supplies immediately stopped, the people storing their grain in the interior on a more extensive scale than ever before, and gradually rose to Rs. 94—100, a price maintained throughout May, but followed by a decline in June. There was an active demand for otton, resulting in a further rise in price.

Agricultural loans. 87. Advances to cultivators were made in all districts except Ma-ubin, Amherst, the Salween Hill Tracts and Sagaing. The total amount rose from Rs. 3,47,078 to Rs. 3,61,056. The largest advances were in Kyauksè, Yamèthin and Myingyan. Much depends on the interest taken by Township Officers and

the promptness with which they dispose of applications. Advances would be more sought after were it not for the delays and trouble involved in waiting on overworked revenue officers. Endeavours are being made to encourage thrift among agriculturists by the establishment of co-operative societies under Government supervision. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

88. A cultivated area of 381,930 acres, over ten thousand more than in the previous year, was protected by the important system of embankments on the Irrawaddy and Ngawun rivers at a cost during the year of 2½ lakhs, the net receipts being nearly eight lakhs. The Sangin-Sagagyi embankment, on the right bank of the Irrawaddy, protected 41,830 acres and yielded Rs. 96,045 after deducting working expenses, and the Thôngwa Island embankment 29,363 acres, an increase of 4,397, yielding a net, profit of Rs. 39,418. A capital account is kept for the above embankments, which have up to date yielded a net profit of 140 lakhs. No such account is kept for the Ma-ubin Island and Sittang embankments. The former protected 127,414 acres and the latter 35,624. Three other embankments are under construction. The Sittang embankment was extended by over a mile and some retirements were made on the Irrawaddy and Ngawun rivers. **Protection from floods.**

Weather and Crops.

89. The monsoon arrived somewhat late, but the early rains were good throughout the province. In Lower Burma the middle rains were slightly deficient while the fall at the end of the season was heavier, and continued longer, than usual. The damage to standing crops from this cause was, however, insignificant. In Upper Burma the failure of the middle rains was such as to threaten serious scarcity in Shwebo, Sagaing, the Lower Chindwin, Yamèthin, Meiktila and Myingyan. This was happily averted by exceptionally good later rains. **The monsoon.**

90. The area under crops increased from 11,355,614 to 12,595,156 acres. By far the largest increase was in Shwebo, where the area rose from 153,042 to 961,975 acres, owing to a better supply of water from the Mu Canal and to a generally good season. Eight other Upper Burma districts show increases ranging from 11,000 acres in Pakôkku to 59,000 in the Upper Chindwin. Three districts showed a decrease. In Upper Burma the extent of land cropped varies greatly with the season, and the increases are no indication of the spread of cultivation. In Lower Burma, on the other hand, an expansion usually means the bringing of waste lands for the first time under the plough. Pegu heads the list with an increase of 36,000 acres, followed by Hanthawaddy, Myaungmya and Thatôn. In Prome only there was a decline. **Cropped area.**

91. Rice is by far the most important crop in all parts of the province except the block of districts with small rainfall and little irrigation, of which Pakôkku and Myingyan are the most important, situated in the heart of Upper Burma. Here, except in Magwe, millet is the main crop, though rice occupies a considerable area on the islands and along the banks of rivers and at the foot of the hills which separate the tract from Arakan. Sesamum, maize, gram and peas are also important crops, and in Magwe sesamum heads the list. North of Mandalay and in Lower Burma the area planted with annual crops other than rice is quite insignificant. Palms and fruit-trees, however, cover large areas in the Henzada, Ma-ubin, Hanthawaddy and Amherst districts of Lower Burma, while in Tavoy a fourth and in Mergui a third of the cultivated land is planted with them. The cocoanut, betelnut, and Nipa or *dani* palms are all of importance in Lower Burma, and the toddy palm in the upper province. The chief cotton districts are Myingyan, Sagaing and Meiktila. **Areas under various crops.**

The total area under rice was 9,306,551, an increase of a million acres. That under millet increased slightly to 1,148,747 acres, and sesamum to 993,770. Peas advanced from 289,916 to 379,307 acres, maize from 112,181 to 119,989, and cotton from 141,529 to 160,126. Fruit and palm trees covered 429,404 acres, slightly more than in the previous year. Among minor crops the area under wheat shows a large increase, while ground-nuts have trebled their area.

Horticulture.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Agri-Horticultural Societies.

92. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma continued to show progress. The number of members rose from 124 to 133, and the balance at the credit of the Society from Rs. 1,37,462 to Rs. 1,44,373. This sum will be utilized for laying out and equipping the new gardens at Kandawgalay. The distribution of plants is steadily increasing, over 4,000 ornamental plants being supplied to members during the year, and a large stock is now maintained. The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society, which has now been established for 20 years, held a successful show.

Horticulture.

93. Experimental gardens were maintained by Government at Myitkyina, Sima, Sinlumkaba, the Chin Hills, Katha and Taunggyi. Of these the garden at Taunggyi in the Southern Shan States is the largest and most successful. An interesting experiment was made with American sweet potatoes. Three varieties were tried and all did well. The cherimoyer, which does not appear to have succeeded elsewhere in Burma, gave another heavy crop. Peaches and apples fruited fairly well, and small crops of plums and apricots were obtained. The other gardens produced good English vegetables and the hardier kinds of fruit, but the more delicate and thin-skinned fruits, such as peaches, apricots, nectarines and cherries, were not successful. Either no fruit at all of these varieties was obtained, or, if obtained, it was of very poor quality. The potato crop was good everywhere except in Katha. The usual distribution was made of Havana and Virginia tobacco-seed. Although the crop failed in nearly half the districts in which the seed was tried, excellent results were obtained in Ma-ubin, Hanthawaddy, Henzada, Minbu and Mandalay. The outturn was heavy, and the average price obtained considerably better than that of country tobacco. The Havana variety in particular is much esteemed by the people, and the cultivation of tobacco from this seed has been especially successful at Ma-ubin. The cultivators used seed obtained from previous experiments and there is a large and increasing export both of tobacco leaf and of locally made cheroots. Plants grown from Arabian coffee seed are reported to be doing well at Taunggyi, Myitkyina and Thatôn. Tea succeeded in the Shan States and further experiments will be made in hilly districts where interest is shown in the cultivation. An experiment with French silk-worm eggs was not successful. One hundred ounces were obtained from France and distributed to the five chief centres of the silk-worm industry. As a rule the eggs did not hatch, and where they did hatch the silk-worms died in a few days without eating the mulberry leaves provided for them. The chief cause of the failure is supposed to have been unfavourable conditions of climate, which were no doubt assisted by ignorance on the part of the native silk-worm breeders.

Forests.

Reserves.

94. An addition of 329 square miles was made to the area of reserved forests, bringing the total area up to 20,038 square miles. Of the areas added 259 miles were in Upper Burma, where large areas still remain for settlement. Only 27 square miles were notified in the Tenasserim Circle owing to the want of officers.

Surveys.

95. Over one lakh was spent on surveys, more than half in the Northern Circle. An area of 1,006 square miles was taken in hand for working-plans, and sanction obtained with respect to 743 square miles. The number of forest offences reported increased from 2,264 to 2,647.

Fire-protection.

96. A more uniform system of fire-protection was introduced during the year, and the results were generally better than in previous years both on this account and because of early rains in April when the risk from fire is ordinarily greatest. The season was favourable in the Tenasserim and abnormally so in the Northern Circle, but large and destructive fires traversed parts of the Pegu Circle and the Southern Circle of Upper Burma. The area over which protection was attempted was 8,151 square miles, of which 509 square miles were burnt. The cost was Rs. 2,72,623.

Sylviculture.

97. The area of plantations operated on during the year was 21,629 acres. The receipts were Rs. 7,761 and the charges Rs. 1,19,211. The Pegu Circle has 65 square miles of very valuable plantations under teak and cutch, which are suffering for want of an efficient staff. Nearly 1,600 acres in all have been planted with

rubber at Sandawut in the Mergui district, 70 having been added during the year. Altogether a lakh of rupees has been expended on this plantation up to date. The chief difficulty to contend with is the damage done by deer, pig and porcupine. In the Mergui experimental garden the tapping of 2,851 trees produced 864 lbs. of rubber, fetching from 4s. 5d. to 5s. 1d. per lb. The price indicates more careful preparation, but the market was abnormally high. Interesting experiments for the reproduction of teak were carried on in the Katha division, the chief feature being the controlled use of fire to secure germination and assist the young seedlings in evergreen forest. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

98. Over 26 million cubic feet of timber were extracted during the year, nearly half being teak. Purchasers extracted rather more teak than Government, and nearly all the timber of other kinds. The amount extracted by free grantees was 295,611 cubic feet, nearly half of it teak. **Extraction and sale of timber.**

Mines and Quarries.

99. The chief centres of the petroleum industry are Yenangyaung in Magwe and Yenangyat in Pakôkku district. A new field has lately been developed by the Burma Oil Company at Singu in Myingyan. A small quantity of oil is also obtained in the Akyab and Kyaukpyu districts. At Yenangyaung the royalty rose from Rs. 5,68,429 to Rs. 7,37,134. The industry is almost entirely in the hands of the Burma Oil Company, who are vigorously exploiting the fields. The output increases steadily and there is no sign of exhaustion of the supply. Yenangyat is a newer field, and out of 50 blocks, each measuring a square mile or nearly so, leased to the Burma, Rangoon, and Minbu Oil Companies, only five are paying royalty. The outturn has risen to 22,356,904 gallons and the revenue from Rs. 2,22,837 to Rs. 2,93,022. The Burma Oil Company is working 8 blocks and has tested four others without finding oil. The Rangoon Oil Company is paying royalty on one block and getting a small amount of oil on several others. The Minbu Oil Company works one block, and has begun on two others. At Singu the royalty paid was Rs. 1,60,832. The Burma Oil Company prospected in Prome but found no oil. **Petroleum.**

100. A new lease for 28 years from the 30th April 1904 was issued to the Burma Ruby Mines Company, fixing the royalty at two lakhs with 30 *per cent.* of the net profits. The Company's receipts were $14\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs and the expenditure 8 lakhs. License-fees from native miners rose from two to over three lakhs owing to the Company throwing Kyauklongyi open to them. The market was normal and the industry in a flourishing condition. **Rubies.**

101. Under a license issued to them in 1901 Choy Yin and Maung Yin Det of Mandalay continued to pay an annual sum of Rs. 50,400 for the right of collecting jade and amber in the Myitkyina district. The jade mines are in the Kachin Hills, and are administered by a Kachin Chief under the control of the Deputy Commissioner. The output was 1,182 cwt., valued at Rs. 77,691. There was a falling-off in the output, but the stone was of a better quality, and the market was good owing to the quiet across the Chinese frontier. The exhaustion of the water in the mines by hand-labour becomes more difficult every year. The amber mines are in unadministered territory. The licensees reported an output of 91 cwt., valued at Rs. 11,752. Several hundred persons also worked amber in a remote part of the Upper Chindwin district, but paid no royalty to Government. **Jade and amber.**

102. The Letkokpin coal mines in Shwebo district stopped work during the year, and the plant was sold to Messrs. Clifford and Sevastopulo, who abandoned work after a few months and are removing the machinery. A prospecting license was held by Colonel Foss for two small areas on the Tenasserim river in the Mergui district, but no work was done. **Coal.**

103. Messrs. Moore and Terndrup, who obtained from Government the right to dredge for gold in the river Irrawaddy, have disposed of their concession to a limited liability Company called the Burma Gold Dredging Company. Two new dredgers are under construction in Great Britain. Dredging operations, intended mainly to test the value of the different portions of the river falling within the **Gold.**

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

concession, were carried on during the whole of the dry season. Prospecting licenses for gold are held or have been applied for in Tavoy, Thatôn, Katha, the Ruby Mines and the Northern Shan States.

Tin.

104. Tin is found in almost every part of the mainland of the Mergui district, but has so far been worked only on a small scale by Chinese and Siamese miners. The workings are dotted over the centre and south of the district, and are nearly all alluvial. The existence of an extensive lode at Maliwun in the south has long been known, but the syndicate formed for the purpose of testing it failed to raise sufficient capital, and has now withdrawn. The Burma Development Syndicate are applying for the concession. At Yanngwa, further north, two European prospectors were at work for the greater part of the year with a view to introducing machinery for hydraulic sluicing. The outturn of tin, which has remained for some years at about 60 tons, declined somewhat owing to the late and scanty rainsat Maliwun, and the royalty fell from Rs. 3,705 to Rs. 3,517. In Tavoy district there are some small workings, but the output is less than a ton a year. A syndicate represented by Colonel Foss is carrying on extensive prospecting operations for tin and gold.

Other minerals.

105. The number of licenses for tourmaline in the Ruby Mines district doubled, and the fees rose to Rs. 1,058, owing to a good market among the Chinese in Mandalay. Steatite continued to be worked in Minbu and Pakôkku, but the demand is dying out as more modern materials are substituted for the steatite pencil and *parabaik* among the Burmese. The issue of licenses for Sagyin marble in Mandalay was suspended owing to an application from a Rangoon firm for a lease. Specimens of marble from the Mergui Archipelago have been sent to experts for examination. Limestone was worked in Toungoo and Thatôn. The Burma Development Syndicate held a license for galena on Maingy Island in the Mergui Archipelago and have sent home a small consignment of the ore for report.

Manufactures.

Principal industries.

106. Nearly all the manufactures of Burma are carried on in the home. Rice-mills, however, supported, according to the 1901 census, over 41,000 people, of whom four-fifths were workers, and saw-mills 8,000, of whom three-fourths were workers. Of the home industries cotton-weaving and spinning were by far the most important, supporting nearly a quarter of a million persons. Over 90 per cent. of the actual workers were women. Carpenters and sawyers with their families numbered each about 70,000. Tailoring supported 58,000, the sexes being nearly equally divided. Goldsmiths, silk-weavers, mat-makers, cheroot-rollers, blacksmiths and potters come next in order of importance, and after them turners and lacquerers and makers of felt or wooden shoes.

Factories.

107. The number of factories which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, increased by 17 and now stands at 190. In Rangoon Town district the number rose from 64 to 99, owing mainly to the transfer from the Hanthawaddy district of 29 rice-mills situated on the south side of the Rangoon River. The establishment of 12 new rice-mills, 8 in the Rangoon and Hanthawaddy districts, is noticeable. The number of operatives increased from 28,517 to 32,345. Over 26,000 of these are in the districts of Rangoon and Hanthawaddy. Wages compared favourably with those prevailing among the labouring classes not employed in mills. The general condition of the operatives is said to be satisfactory. More women and more children were employed, but they still form little more than 3 *per cent.* of the total number of operatives. They are usually employed in rice-mills, where they make or carry bags, sample rice, or do other light work. Seventy-three children are shown for the first time as employed in the oil works at Syriam. As a result of a fatal accident at Bassein, a wire fence was ordered to be erected in all three saw-mills at each bench between the saw and the belt pulleys. The number of accidents decreased from 185 to 163, but the number of those resulting fatally rose from 3 to 9 and resulted in 11 deaths. A factory owner in Rangoon who was fined in 1902 for neglect of fencing was again convicted and fined. This was the only prosecution. The

question of the sufficiency of the provisions of the existing law for the purpose of providing against accidents and deaths from fire in factories was under consideration during the year. Proposals to reduce the minimum number of inspections were also discussed and have now been carried into effect. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Trade.

108. The value of the total volume of sea-borne trade of the province rose from 37,37 to 39,46 lakhs, and is the highest yet recorded. The imports were valued at 17 and the exports at 22½ crores. Nearly 62 *per cent.* of the total trade was foreign. **Maritime trade. Total value.**

109. The value of foreign imports by sea increased from 6,25 to 8,47 lakhs. Excluding gold and silver, the value rose by no less than 38·7 *per cent.*, from 5,95 to 8,26 lakhs. This remarkable increase was the result of bumper crops and an accommodating money market. The imports of yarns and textile fabrics rose from 2,26 to 2,92 lakhs. So far as cotton yarn and piece-goods were concerned the increase was in value rather than in quantity, owing to a rise in the price of the raw material. The imports of silk, however, rose from six to nine million yards, and the value from 36 to 54 lakhs. The increase was almost wholly due to the large imports of piece-goods of pure silk from Japan, which are steadily ousting the European-made cloths from the markets owing to their greater durability, superior lustre, and better value generally. Woollen piece-goods doubled in quantity, and rose in value from 10 to 22 lakhs. Matches, mainly from Japan, rose from 9½ to 12 lakhs. The imports of sewing machines doubled in value, and those of manufacturing implements nearly trebled, while the value of enamelled ironware was nearly four times as great as in the preceding year. The imports of iron more than doubled, and the value rose from 45 to 87 lakhs. The imports of kerosene oil, nearly 13 lakhs, were normal, though in excess of the previous year. Liquors increased from 29 to 37 lakhs, of which 18 lakhs were beer and stout, and sugar from 23½ to 31¾. The imports of salted fish and *ngapi* from the Straits declined owing to local competition, but luxuries such as bacon and hams, biscuits, butter, cheese, condensed milk, jams and sardines increased largely. Most of the goods came from the United Kingdom, 58·67 *per cent.*, and the Straits, 11·72. Japan has attained the third place, the proportion of her goods rising from 4·6 to 6 *per cent.* The other countries in order are Germany, Belgium, Holland, the United States, France, China, Austria, and Java. The United Kingdom supplied 91 *per cent.* of the liquors, 62 of the hardware and cutlery, 77 of the iron, and 78 of the piece-goods. A cargo of Russian oil was put on the market but did not find favour. The imports of oil from the Straits increased. **Maritime trade. Foreign imports.**

110. Exports of goods to foreign countries increased from 15,47 to 15,82 lakhs in value. The bulk of the trade consisted of rice, rice-bran, pulse, raw cotton, hides, cutch and teak. The three first heads showed a decline, from 13,47 to 13,35½ lakhs, but under nearly all the others there was an increase. The exports of rice declined from 1,841,664 tons to 1,667,999, owing to two-thirds of the crop being held back by the cultivators and middlemen, who were not satisfied with the moderate prices obtained. The export trade in beans to Europe, which had developed greatly in the previous year, fell off as quickly owing to adverse reports. Exports of cotton to the United Kingdom showed a large increase owing to the Russo-Japanese war, which reduced the supplies to Japan, and to the corner in the American product. It is doubtful whether it will be maintained, as the English spinners report that Burma cotton is too uneven in quality for their requirements. Teak exports showed an advance from 65 to 88 lakhs, and cutch from 13 to 19. Of the total exports the Straits took 21·6 *per cent.*, Japan 19·4, the United Kingdom 15·6, and Germany 10·3. The figures for the year for the first time show the ultimate destination of the cargoes. Of the husked rice 7 million cwt. each went to the Straits and Japan, 4¾ million to Germany, nearly 3 to the United Kingdom, and 2½ each to Austria-Hungary and Holland. **Foreign exports.**

111. Imports of Indian produce increased from 6,09 to 6,51 lakhs, and of foreign merchandise from Indian ports from 1,16 to 1,27. Exports to Indian ports of foreign merchandise also increased from 84½ to 90 lakhs, but those of home **Coasting trade.**

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produce declined from 5,87 to 5,31 owing to the curtailment in the supplies of rice. The exports of kerosene oil, 18 million gallons in the previous year, were nearly doubled, and those of candles rose from 1½ to 5½ million pounds, in spite of the enormous number used at pagodas in Burma.

Trans-frontier trade.

112. The value of the trans-frontier trade was 370 lakhs or 60 lakhs more than in the previous year. Imports increased by 26, and exports by nearly 12 *per cent.* Trade with Western China showed a moderate increase. The imports, more than half silver, were valued at 27 lakhs, and the exports, mostly piece-goods, at 36. With the Shan States there was a decided advance in imports, mostly along the Salween river, but a decline in exports. Traffic is being diverted to the railway. The value of the total trade was 105 lakhs. The cessation of disturbances in Siam was followed by a revival in the trade with that country. Imports rose from 29½ to 49 lakhs, and exports from 17¾ to 32½. There was a large importation of elephants owing to keen competition among merchants. The trade with Karenni, in all 41 lakhs, consists almost entirely of teak, silver being exported in exchange. The imports of teak rose in value, but not in quantity.

Public Works.

Roads.

113. The province contained 1,603 miles of metalled and 7,766 of unmetalled roads outside municipal boundaries. Of the former 1,454, and of the latter 5,480 miles were in charge of the Public Works Department. The following were the most important roads under construction:—

(*a*) A metalled road 37 miles long from Kawkareik to Myawaddi, to complete connection between Moulmein and the Siamese State of Raheng. The road is practically completed and will shortly be open to traffic.

(*b*) A road from Taunggyi, the headquarters of the Southern Shan States, which is connected by road with the railway at Thazi, to the outpost of Kēngtūng, where there is an Assistant Superintendent and half a battalion of native infantry. About 95 miles of a cart road 175 miles long have been completed, and a mule track for the remaining 100 miles is being improved.

(*c*) A road from Toungoo on the railway to the sanitarium of Thandaung nearly completed. An estimate for a bridge over the Sittang river is under preparation.

(*d*) A metalled road 25 miles long from Bhamo towards the Chinese frontier on the north-east was nearly completed, and a mule-track for the remaining 21 miles improved.

(*e*) A road from Seikpyu on the Irrawaddy river to Saw, at the foot of Mount Victoria, on which the headquarters of the Pakôkku Chin Hills are established. The most difficult part, between Saw and Kawtôn, 41 miles long, approached completion. The remaining 27 miles will be taken in hand later.

(*f*) By agreement with the Chinese Government a road 15½ miles long from Kulika on the frontier to Man-Tu in Chinese territory was constructed by the Department.

(*g*) A road 14 miles long to connect the headwaters of the Yan-ngwa river, Mergui district, where there is a rich tin country hitherto little worked owing to absence of communications with Bôkpyin on the sea-coast, was nearly completed, and surveys were made for other roads in the same district.

A survey for the re-alignment of the Mogôk road was in progress.

Railways.

114. The length of line open to all descriptions of traffic on the 31st March 1904 was 1,337 miles, 6 miles less than at the beginning of the year owing to the re-aligning of the Bassein—Henzada—Letpadan line and to the cessation of work on suburban lines at Bassein. The construction of a line from Pegu to Martaban, 121 miles in length, was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in November 1903. A

survey was carried out from Thamaing to Mahlagôn, and that from Prome to Taunggôk in the Arakan division continued.

No less than five accidents, causing serious damage to rolling stock and permanent way but happily little loss of life, were due to collisions with buffaloes. In one a cooly woman was killed and the guard and seven coolies injured, in another the guard was killed. A goods train was derailed owing to the breaking of an axle, and two passenger trains from some cause not stated. Damage from floods or heavy rain caused the main line to be blocked for three days in August and again in October, the Letpadan-Tharawaw line from the end of August to the 18th November, the Lashio line from September 1st to November 6th, and the Bassein-Henzada line from the 19th to the 25th September.

The capital outlay during the year was Rs. 29,75,839 and the expenditure up to date Rs. 13,16,03,186. The gross earnings for the year were Rs. 1,41,21,600, or Rs. 14,69,216 more than in 1902-03. The working expenses increased by nearly twelve lakhs, and the net earnings by three. The percentage of net receipts to capital outlay increased from 3·84 to 3·94, and the train mileage from 3,560,434 to 4,421,034.

Tramways.

115. A steam tramway 7¾ miles long, owned by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, connected the headquarters of the Thatôn district with the Company's launches at Duyinzeik. The earnings were Rs. 44,827. The Rangoon steam tramways, over 4 miles long, carried 3,204,166 passengers and earned Rupees 2,48,485. The electric tramways in Mandalay were not opened until after the close of the year.

Canals.

116. The only navigation canals of the province in charge of the Public Works Department are the Pegu-Sittang, Sittang-Kyaikto and Twante canals. Dues are levied only on the first. The navigation of the Panhlaing creek is being improved by an artificial cut near Yandoon.

Irrigation.

117. The irrigated area increased from 649,062 acres to 686,588. That in Shwebo nearly doubled, and there were large advances in Mandalay and Minbu. The increase was generally due to the abundant supply of water from the heavy September rains. Yamèthin and Meiktila, however, failed to benefit by these, and there was a considerable decrease. The irrigation was mostly from canals, three-fifths of which were under Government management. Where an area is too small or the supply of water too uncertain to make the construction of permanent works advisable, there is a tendency to return to the old Burmese method of holding the people responsible for the upkeep of irrigation works in consideration of a remission of part of the *thathameda*-tax, and legislation enabling the managers elected by the cultivators to enforce their orders is under consideration. The area irrigated from tanks is comparatively small. Irrigation was extended in Pakôkku at the cost of the District Fund.

Major irrigation canals.

118. The capital expenditure, direct and indirect, incurred during the year on the three large irrigation canals under construction, the Mandalay, the Shwebo and the Môn, was Rs. 13,98,507. The Mandalay canal, which is nearly completed, was opened for irrigation in June 1903. Thirty thousand acres, mainly rice, were irrigated. The opening of this canal was opportune, as the early rains failed and the smaller works which the canal replaces would not have given a sufficient supply of water. Only half water-rates were assessed on lands previously cultivated. The length of the canal and its distributaries in operation at the end of the year was 225 miles. The total capital outlay to the end of the year was Rs. 50,38,052, of which Rs. 3,41,288 were spent during the year. The revenue receipts amounted to Rs. 92,796, while the working expenses were Rs. 95,277. Construction work on the Shwebo canal progressed satisfactorily. The capital outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 10,10,525, bringing the total to Rs. 30,18,109. Work on the Môn canals was started and Rs. 46,694 expended. Surveys for a new scheme, the Ye-u Canal Project, which is expected to irrigate 100 square miles annually, were also undertaken.

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Minor irrigation works

119. The other irrigation systems under the care of the Public Works Department were in the Kyauksè, Mandalay and seven other Upper Burma districts. The area irrigated and assessed to revenue increased, owing to the abundant rainfall in the latter part of the season, from 239,474 to 274,934 acres. The revenue assessed on this area amounted to Rs. 8,21,877. More than half of this was from Kyauksè district, where there is a highly-developed system of canals. In Myingyan, Meiktila and Yamèthin irrigation is mostly from tanks. The Shwetachaung canal in Mandalay district yielded nearly a lakh of gross revenue and a net revenue of Rs. 81,000. The Kyauksè canals yielded a net revenue of over a lakh, but in all the other districts except Shwebo the working expenses, including indirect charges, exceeded the receipts. The total net revenue was Rs. 41,857. The Kanna tank in Myingyan district was breached during the year and has so far been a failure.

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Note on the working of the Income Tax Act in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.
Eleventh issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps, and VIII—Income Tax.

(*a*).—*Imperial Revenue and Finance.*

Gross Revenues.

120. The total revenues of the province, other than local funds and the receipts of the postal and telegraph departments, amounted to Rs. 8,84,78,570, an increase of Rs. 73,42,610 over the previous year. The Imperial share of this was Rs. 5,13,45,517 and the share of the increment 42¾ lakhs. The total expenditure was Rs. 5,24,71,206, an advance of 32½ lakhs. Of this burden the Imperial share was Rs. 1,33,60,360, or nearly 15 lakhs more than in the previous year. The fluctuations in those parts of the revenues which are shared between the Imperial and Provincial Governments are dealt with below under each head. The only other heads of importance are State Railways, the gross earnings of which rose from Rs. 1,26,67,364 to Rs. 1,41,06,869, and Tribute from Native States, which increased from Rs. 4,24,754 to Rs. 4,79,926. The expenditure showed a slight decrease from Rs. 2,64,658 to Rs. 2,57,508 on account of general administration charges and from Rs. 8,41,200 to Rs. 6,47,927 for military works. The working expenses of State railways rose from Rs. 77,32,319 to Rupees 89,17,418.

Land Revenue.

Ordinary revenue.

121. The total assessments of land revenue proper, not including the special water-rates levied in certain districts, were Rs. 2,18,15,715, an increase of nearly 20 lakhs over the previous year. Hanthawaddy, with 33 lakhs, had by far the largest revenue in the province, Pegu following with 18 and Akyab and Bassein with about 14 each. In Upper Burma the small district of Kyauksè had the largest land revenue, nearly 7 lakhs. Over a third of the increase in the revenue demand was due to the introduction of the settlement rates of land revenue in Sagaing and Yamèthin. As a set-off to this must be placed the reduction of Rs. 4,92,441 under *thathameda*, and of Rs. 28,098 in the demand from water-rate in Yamèthin. The increases in Akyab (Rs. 1,82,629), Tharrawaddy (Rs. 1,02,437), the area now comprised in the three districts of Ma-ubin, Myaungmya and Pyapôn (Rs. 1,17,640), and Bassein (Rs. 69,434) were in the main due to the introduction during the year of revised rates of assessment in parts of these districts. That of Rs. 1,51,132 in Mandalay is the result of the extension of irrigation from the new canal; that of Rs. 1,02,447 in the Lower Chindwin of the larger area in which the assessment rates fixed on the summary settlement of the district were in force. The improvements elsewhere were mostly due to the larger area under cultivation and the better character of the season.

Remissions of land revenue.

122. Remissions amounted to Rs. 2,60,550, slightly less than the previous year's amount. Two-fifths of the whole were in the Hanthawaddy district, and were due to floods in the Hlaing river. Floods also accounted for heavy remissions in Ma-ubin and Tharrawaddy, and smaller amounts in Henzada and Mandalay. It is only in the lower province that all land sown or planted is assessed. In Upper

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Burma crops which have failed to mature at the time of the surveyor's visit are excluded from assessment. This system is made necessary by the precarious nature of cultivation in the dry zone.

Water-rate.

123. A water-rate, to repay Government for the cost of irrigation works, is levied on lands irrigated from small irrigation works in certain Upper Burma districts which have not been settled. In the others a separate rate is dispensed with in the case of petty works, the land revenue being proportionately increased. The latter system was introduced in Yamèthin during the year. Shwebo is now the only district with any considerable area assessed to water-rate, and here the area nearly doubled owing to a good rainfall. The total demand for the province was Rs. 27,301.

Capitation-tax.

124. Outside the larger towns a poll-tax is levied, with certain exceptions on every able-bodied man in the lower province, married men paying double. The number of assessees rose from 1,156,825 to 1,179,251, an increase of two per cent., and the demand by over a lakh to Rs. 49,13,655. The only districts in which there was a decrease were Akyab and Prome. No satisfactory explanation is given for the former decrease, which seems to be due to insufficient checking. In Prome the falling-off is attributed to migration to other districts owing to the shortage of rainfall at the beginning of the year. There has been a general increase from 82,324 to 90,881 in the number of persons exempted on account of poverty or old age, due to village headmen making greater use of the powers lately conferred upon them to enter these classes in the rolls as exempted, a power which is reported not to have been abused. Exemption could formerly be obtained only on application to the Township Officer.

Thathameda.

125. The *thathameda* is a kind of income-tax levied on each household in Upper Burma outside Mandalay. Government takes a fixed sum from the village, calculated at an average rate per household, and this is assessed on each household in proportion to its means by the village assessors. The number of households assessed was 693,504, only 528 more than in the previous year. There was generally a decrease in the north and an increase in the south of the upper province. The former was due to migration to Lower Burma in consequence of the unfavourable character of the early rains. The demand, Rs. 46,41,173, fell off by nearly 6⅓ lakhs, but most of this is due to the assessment for the first time to land revenue of private lands in Sagaing, Yamèthin and the Lower Chindwin and the consequent reduction of the *thathameda* assessment on agricultural sources of income. A sum of Rs. 29,222 was remitted. The reduction of the rate in districts where revenue is assessed on private lands has produced a tendency among assessors to make the assessment uniform, partly in imitation of the Lower Burma poll-tax, and partly owing to the fact that few households are too poor to pay a reduced rate. It is not the policy of Government to interfere with the discretion of the assessors, but it has been explained to them that such uniformity is not inended.

Fishery revenue.

126. The year shows a further increase in fishery revenue from Rs. 28,38,846 to Rs. 29,07,886. Nine-tenths of the demand is from leased fisheries and the remainder from nets and fishing-traps for which licenses are issued. There was a decline in the latter, probably owing to insufficient checking. The detection of unlicensed nets is difficult, especially in the sea-fisheries, and an attempt was made during the year to facilitate it by attaching lead labels to the nets. It is as yet too early to pronounce on the results of the experiment. In Mergui the plan of affixing numbered boards to fishing-traps at sea was attended with some success. The pearl fisheries in that district, though abandoned by the Australians, are being successfully worked by natives, and the number of pumps rose from 60 to 70. The leased fisheries of the delta, as re-organized in accordance with Major Maxwell's proposals, again showed a substantial increase (Rs. 77,669), in spite of the loss of half a lakh through combination between the bidders of the Pantanaw township, the most important of all the fishery tracts. The largest increases were in Pegu, Bassein and Hanthawaddy. In Mergui the leases issued had hitherto been for the right to collect green snails and *bèche-de-mer* in the Archipelago. The inclusion of the right to collect mother-of-pearl shells without

diving apparatus and the conical shells known in commerce as top shells and locally as *trocas* produced an increase of Rs. 11,700.

Land rate and other miscellaneous land revenue.

127. The total area assessed to land rate in lieu of capitation-tax in the seven towns of Lower Burma in which this tax is levied rose from 7,209 to 7,529 acres, and the revenue demand from Rs. 79,720 to Rs. 88,317. Every town contributed to the larger demand, which was due to the assessment during the year of land belonging to persons who became exempt from income-tax by the raising of the taxable minimum to Rs. 1,000. The only decrease in area was in Prome, where the owners of certain garden lands surrendered their holdings in consequence of the enhancement in the rate of land revenue made at the recent settlement. The double burden of land rate and land revenue is no doubt heavier than the less productive and valuable gardens can bear with profit to their owners. Of other miscellaneous receipts by far the most important is petroleum, which yielded Rs. 12,05,674, an increase of Rs. 3,98,226 over the previous year. The royalty on rubies fell from Rs. 3,89,788 to Rs. 2,11,545. Among other receipts fines under the village laws increased from Rs. 1,58,839 to Rs. 1,83,820, survey fees for *pottas* from Rs. 67,995 to Rs. 1,05,749, and rent of town lands from Rs. 66,082 to Rs. 66,191.

Canal Revenue.

128. The Pegu-Sittang canal is the only navigation work on which dues are collected. The receipts fell slightly from Rs. 1,19,272 to Rs. 1,12,414.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

129. The import duty rose from Rs. 48,12,149 to Rs. 55,93,097, there being an increase under every head except salt, salt fish and raw silk. The export duty declined, owing to the restricted exports of rice, from Rs. 96,74,024 to Rs. 87,62,302.

Opium.

130. The gross receipts from opium rose from Rs. 30,64,946 to Rs. 45,50,182. The arrangements described in last year's report continued in force with some modifications in detail. The vendors' profits in some of the larger shops had been excessive, and these were reduced by raising the fee and the wholesale rate per seer. The number of shops was further increased by 31. In last year's report it was seen that the increase in receipts from duty under the new scheme was balanced by a loss in license fees, while there was a large increase in expenditure owing to the strengthening of the staff. The sales of opium have now further increased to so large an extent that the net revenue, even if the whole cost of the excise establishment is debited to opium, far exceeds that under the old system. The sales rose from 37,232 seers to 50,026 in the first year of the new scheme and now show a further rise to 70,446. This result has been obtained mainly by the destruction of the trade in contraband opium, through the lowering of the retail price, the increase in the number of shops, the better supervision of the vendors, and the activity shown by a better-paid and more efficient preventive staff. While it is true that the system has failed to prevent the hawking about the country of the three tola packets bought at shops, or to keep the drug away from the Burman who gets it through a person entitled to buy, the general opinion is that the amount of opium consumed in the province has not increased, and that the large profits shown in the returns have been obtained, not by the spread of the opium habit, but at the expense of the smuggler. The contraband trade has not been destroyed, but it has certainly been decreased and in some districts broken up. It is now proposed to reduce the opportunities for petty hawking of Government opium by directing Resident Excise Officers to prevent sales to individuals in excess of their probable consumption or means of purchase. This will tend to check the practice of buying on behalf of unregistered Burmans, but it is impossible altogether to prevent this, and no satisfactory measures have so far been suggested for the exclusion of Burmans from opium dens where they are taught the habit.

Salt.

131. The local outturn of salt increased from 544,801 to 705,606 maunds and the duty thereon from Rs. 2,30,690 to Rs. 3,14,532. The duty on foreign salt, on the other hand, went down from Rs. 14,39,979 to Rs 12,74,992. The falling-off was entirely in imports from Germany and other foreign countries, British

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imports increasing by over a fourth from 25 to 42 per cent. of the whole. There was a still larger decrease in the imports of salted fish, from 333,268 to 232,452 maunds. As the consumption has certainly not decreased and the decline is accompanied by an augmentation of the fishery revenue it is evident that Burma is becoming better able to supply its own needs.

The price of salt was generally lower than in the previous year owing to the efforts made by the importers of salt from Liverpool to regain the market. English and German salt went down in May to Rs. 66, but rose in October to Rs. 77. At the same time a late monsoon increased the outturn of local salt by lengthening the season during which it was possible to work.

The system of assessing duty on the actual output, instead of by means of a composition duty on the cauldrons employed in the manufacture, which was experimentally tried in Bassein in 1902, was extended to Myaungmya during the year of report, while some of the Hanthawaddy salt boilers, who had refused to work on the new system in 1902, resumed operations. The change cannot be said to be altogether popular with the salt boilers, who dislike the supervision which it involves and its interference with trade. They are no longer able to sell when they please, but must wait the arrival of the Inspector to weigh out the quantity on which duty has been paid. From a financial point of view the scheme is undoubtedly a success, and it may be possible still further to strengthen the establishment employed in the supervision of manufacture, and thereby provide additional security for the revenue and extra facilities to the manufacturers for the removal of salt.

Excise.

132. Except for a few European distilleries where duty is levied according to the outturn, the revenue from liquor continues to consist mainly of license fees fixed by auctioning the right to sell in a given tract. A proposal to extend the duty system is however under consideration. The gross receipts rose from Rs. 29,01,045 to Rs. 33,34,653. The right to sell imported liquors produced Rs. 11,48,095, an increase of nearly three lakhs. Of this more than half came from Rangoon owing to the break-up of a combination of bidders. It is believed that a portion of the stuff sold as foreign liquor is country spirit of illicit distillation doctored by means of various essences. The fees from country spirits are comparatively small and are derived almost entirely from the Tenasserim and Arakan divisions, especially the towns of Mergui and Tavoy, and some Upper Burma districts. They increased from Rs. 1,32,591 to Rs. 1,44,495, chiefly owing to the opening of two new shops in Thatôn. Fermented liquors are used most in the delta districts. *Tari*, the juice of various kinds of palm, showed a decline from Rs. 5,58,590 to Rs. 5,21,558, but other native liquors rose from Rs. 10,80,068 to Rs. 12,05,341. The substitution of the less potent kinds of liquor for spirits is part of the policy of Government, and it is proposed not to re-issue a number of the foreign liquor licenses. The duty on foreign spirits distilled in the country rose from two to two-and-a-half lakhs. An improvement in the system of collecting license fees was inaugurated during the year, whereby the taking of security is dispensed with and the fee collected by monthly payments in advance. This widens the field of competition by enabling individuals of small capital to bid for licenses formerly confined to the wealthy or to syndicates. A defect in the existing rules was supplied by prescribing a special form of license for the sale of liquor at entertainments. A blow was struck at illicit distillation by the inclusion of *kazawye*, a fermented liquor made of rice and used in the manufacture of spirit, among the liquors of which it is illegal to possess more than a certain amount.

Stamps.

133. The gross receipts from the sale of stamps rose from Rs. 26,32,482 to Rs. 29,41,940. The nett receipts, after deducting cost of stamps, discount to vendors, etc., were over 28 lakhs. The increase, which though not quite so great as in the previous year is above the average rate of former years, is the more satisfactory as it appears mainly in the non-judicial stamps. The year was a prosperous one for both agriculturists and traders. Receipts from court-fees increased everywhere except in the adjacent delta districts of Ma-ubin, Myaungmya and Pyapôn. Non-judicial impressed stamps show an increase everywhere except in Akyab and Thatôn, and rose from Rs. 5,25,545 to Rs. 6,29,828. Impressed labels and special adhesive stamps, which are used mostly for printed documents, and nearly all in

Rangoon, again show a large advance from Rs. 2,90,304 to Rs. 3,80,712. Land speculation in Rangoon and the neighbourhood is mainly responsible for the increase. The number of cases in which duty and penalty were levied on documents filed in the courts rose from 1,050 to 1,285, and the number of prosecutions, due to a sudden outburst of activity in Pakôkku, from 219 to 314.

Assessed taxes.

134. In accordance with the provisions of Act XI of 1903, incomes of less than Rs. 1,000 ceased to be subjected to taxation. The result was a decrease in the number of persons assessed from 25,308 to 11,431, and of these 608 were persons with incomes of less than Rs. 1,000, whose March salaries were assessed in April, but who paid no tax in the remaining eleven months. The final demand, however, decreased only slightly, from Rs. 9,56,621 to Rs. 9,52,131, owing to greater prosperity and probably also stricter assessment. Rangoon, Toungoo and four other districts actually show an increase over the previous year. The number of Government servants paying the tax was reduced by more than one half. They are nearly one-fourth of the total number assessed. The collection of the tax gave no difficulty, and the number of warrants against defaulters fell from 766 to 241.

Forests.

135. The following statement shows the sources of forest revenue and compares the receipts with those of the previous year :—

Particulars.	1902-03.	1903-04.	Increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Timber and other produce removed from the forests—			
by Government Agency	33,33,004	43,29,281	+ 9,96,277
by purchasers and consumers—			
timber	23,53,495	29,85,216	+ 6,31,721
firewood and charcoal	1,56,539	1,61,465	+ 4,926
bamboos and canes	1,79,225	1,91,048	+ 11,823
grazing and fodder	2,148	2,523	+ 375
other minor produce	1,00,991	1,41,529	+ 40,538
Confiscated drift and waif wood	2,07,601	2,40,774	+ 33,173
Duty on foreign timber and other produce	3,03,776	3,63,377	+ 59,601
Miscellaneous	1,01,046	1,04,191	+ 3,145
Total ...	67,37,825	85,19,404	+ 17,81,579

136. The financial results of the year's working are shown below :—

Circle.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.	Proportion of surplus to gross revenue.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Pegu	31,98,789	13,57,599	18,41,190	58
Tenasserim	19,69,005	8,20,234	11,48,771	58
Northern	22,81,484	7,66,922	15,14,562	66
Southern	10,70,126	5,55,556	5,14,570	48
Total for 1903-04 ...	85,19,404	35,00,311	50,19,093	59
Total for 1902-03 ..	67,37,825	29,63,316	37,74,509	56
Difference ...	+ 17,81,579	+ 5,36,995	+ 12,44,584	+ 3

The revenue for the year was much in excess of the previous years' figures. The improvement was due mainly to the high prices obtained at the sales of Government teak timber throughout the province, and to the larger quantites of timber which were placed on the market in consequence. Every effort was made to bring to the depôts and sell as much timber as possible at the prevailing rates. A good floating season permitted of the extraction from the Toungoo forests by

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

purchase-contractors of a larger amount of timber than had been estimated, and the increased royalty on this timber, as also the higher duty obtained at *ad valorem* rates on foreign timber brought down the Salween river, aided to swell the revenue for the year. The growth in expenditure was mainly due to larger extraction of teak timber by Government Agency.

(*b*).—*Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.*

Provincial Revenues.

137. The Provincial share of the revenues amounted to Rs. 3,71,33,053, an increase of Rs. 30,65,149. The fluctuations in those parts of the revenue which are shared between the Imperial and Provincial Governments are dealt with above under each head. The only other heads of any importance are Courts of Law, the receipts from which rose from Rs. 4,74,360 to Rs. 5,03,053, Marine (chiefly coast light dues), which increased from Rs. 4,65,838 to Rs. 4,86,753, and Civil Works, which rose from Rs. 2,84,634 to Rs. 4,41,743 mainly owing to the sale of buildings and old materials under the Sudder Bazaar expropriation scheme. Expenditure on Courts of Law rose from Rs. 28,48,430 to Rs. 30,27,662 on Police from Rs. 94,25,489 to Rs. 95,96,371, on Marine (launches, etc.) from Rs. 8,36,145 to Rs. 9,47,800, on Medical from Rs. 8,34,685 to Rs. 9,28,178, and on Civil Works from Rs. 87,34,355 to Rs. 96,21,089.

Local Funds.

138. Under this head are included the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma which are proportionate to and collected with the land revenue; and the District Funds in Upper Burma, the Taunggyi Improvement Fund; and the Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Akyab Land Sale and Rent, Rangoon Police Reward, Rangoon Cantonment Garden, Educational Syndicate, and Rangoon College Funds. The first three are classed by the Accounts Department as Incorporated Local Funds, the accounts being kept by the district treasuries; the others, the accounts of which are kept by the local staff of the fund, are called Excluded Local Funds.

District Cess Funds.

139. The receipts from 20 District Cess Funds in Lower Burma rose by nearly a lakh to Rs. 22,82,147 and the closing balance to nearly 12 lakhs. Four-fifths of the receipts are derived from the cess on land, the remainder being mostly from bazaars. The result is that the amounts vary greatly in different districts, from over 4 lakhs in Hanthawaddy to Rs. 14,241 in Sandoway. Eleven districts out of twenty had an income of over a lakh. The expenditure of the smaller funds went mostly to the support of the village headmen, that of the larger to the construction of roads and rest-houses.

District Funds.

140. The receipts from 16 District Funds in Upper Burma rose by Rs. 11,616 to Rs. 4,39,504, but the closing balance fell by an almost equal amount to Rs. 2,71,461. The amounts varied from Rs. 61,831 in Meiktila to Rs. 2,936 in Kindat.

Cantonment Funds.

141. There are Cantonments at Rangoon, Mandalay, Thayetmyo, Bhamo, Meiktila, Shwebo and Maymyo. The income of the funds, apart from loans, rose from Rs. 2,03,537 to Rs. 2,29,098 and the expenditure from Rs. 2,14,847 to Rs. 2,22,534. The fluctuations were almost entirely due to grants-in-aid from the general revenues.

Town Funds.

142. There were 14 towns in the province considered of sufficient importance for taxes to be imposed on the inhabitants for purposes of conservancy and other local needs, but not large enough to be declared municipalities. Of these three were new, Wakèma and Insein having attained sufficient importance to be added to the list, while the Pagan Municipality was abolished and the Nyaungu Town Fund created in its place. The total income of the funds rose from Rs. 2,15,572 to Rs. 3,48,056, and the closing balance to Rs. 1,68,917.

Port Funds.

143. The Rangoon Port Trust had an income of Rs. 17,82,817, an increase of over 2¼ lakhs above the previous year, and a closing balance of Rs. 9,70,141. The Port funds at Moulmein, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Tavoy and Mergui had a total income of Rs. 3,05,688 and showed a closing balance of Rs. 2,16,711.

Their income somewhat decreased. The Bassein fund owed Rs. 11,000 to Government and the Rangoon Port Trust nearly 12 lakhs to the public.

144. Pilot funds exist at Rangoon, Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein. Receipts for pilotage are credited to the fund, the greater part disbursed to the pilots, and the balance retained for maintenance of pilot vessels, etc. The receipts rose from under 4 lakhs to Rs. 4,25,987. The closing balance was Rs. 1,00,857. **Pilot Funds.**

145. The income of the Educational Syndicate fund was Rs. 43,363, that of the Rangoon College fund Rs. 51,181, the Rangoon Police Reward fund Rs. 618, the Akyab Land Sale and Rent fund Rs. 2,943, the Rangoon Cantonment Garden fund Rs. 5,135, and the Taunggyi Improvement fund Rs. 7,763. **Other funds.**

Road Cesses.

146. *Nil.*

Education Cesses.

147. *Nil.*

Municipal Revenues.

148. The following statements show the income and expenditure of the municipalities of the province under the most important heads, omitting fractions of rupees:—

Name of Municipality.	Opening balance.	Income from						Total income with opening balance.
		House and land tax.	Markets and slaughter-houses.	Conservancy tax.	Lighting tax.	Grants.	Loans.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rangoon	19,95,224	6,68,924	3,15,928	4,83,962	71,372	1,51,906	15,00,000	66,73,120
Akyab	19,376	25,776	37,716	27,564	3,458	18,880	...	1,52,422
Kyaukpyu	2,260	2,666	6,285	...	...	2,130	...	13,543
Sandoway	2,048	1,295	6,193	...	358	1,888	...	13,124
Pegu	24,330	16,865	51,450	3,468	1,329	1,751	...	1,38,867
Thônzè	40,101	3,109	17,385	...	988	8,226	...	70,818
Letpadan	17,473	4,491	20,292	...	...	2,581	...	52,632
Gyobingauk	25,752	3,381	23,219	1,224	...	5,007	...	66,695
Prome	147,786	12,248	62,626	13,459	5,021	4,225	...	2,95,885
Paungdè	24,901	4,835	26,299	...	511	1,521	...	66,711
Ma-ubin	10,502	2,571	18,286	2,889	...	16,570	8,000	64,872
Yandoon	10,251	4,711	26,886	5,361	...	600	...	56,022
Bassein	70,976	28,676	55,898	11,519	10,294	2,360	...	1,99,829
Ngathainggyaung ...	5,368	2,994	15,229	...	...	944	...	29,053
Henzada	2,970	14,108	46,359	8,133	4,627	...	80,000	1,20,563
Zalun	1,208	2,897	8,597	...	...	900	...	19,972
Myanaung	6,659	3,164	12,691	...	...	...	...	25,722
Kyangin	3,223	2,587	9,474	2,043	...	...	...	19,771
Myaungmya	17,893	2,103	17,507	779	713	3,000	...	43,966
Toungoo	16,286	10,606	41,598	1,924	7,510	7,740	...	1,00,268
Shwegyin	5,757	3,830	11,246	...	1,699	150	...	27,570
Kyaikto	10,201	3,872	12,067	...	1,040	1,000	...	30,491
Thatôn	33,941	4,736	18,023	...	1,589	900	...	71,898
Moulmein	44,552	72,565	20,362	20,542	19,453	1,150	3,96,000	7,66,329
Tavoy	4,123	11,805	12,054	6,550	233	356	...	42,932
Mergui	11,088	14,742	10,304	2,168	4,625	382	...	45,743
Thayetmyo	26,177	8,329	16,704	...	...	...	...	56,459
Allanmyo	8,742	...	17,957	...	..	100	...	36,623
Pakôkku	7,400	11,080	19,809	...	...	4,285	...	52,947
Minbu	4,409	8,596	9,107	735	...	4,600	...	25,722
Salin	5,143	3,962	12,386	...	...	150	...	26,485
Taungdwingyi	2,087	1,043	11,516	...	...	450	...	17,421
Mandalay	54,924	2,36,773	2,54,914	...	43,042	1,475	7,23,000	15,46,358
Bhamo	8,970	8,582	12,689	1,131	...	2,400	...	38,803
Shwebo	8,290	4,419	19,701	...	...	1,000	...	44,390
Sagaing	8,898	8,768	14,785	691	...	1,263	...	39,630
Mônywa	3,247	2,996	11,792	...	...	1,600	...	30,047
Kyauksè	7,499	4,485	11,115	...	...	475	...	28,268
Yamèthin	8,256	4,379	12,913	...	...	800	...	28,963
Pyinmana	9,585	8,140	30,277	...	...	...	...	55,329
Myingyan	21,358	5,350	22,220	...	...	...	...	60,344

Name of Municipality.	Expenditure on							Closing balance.	Total expenditure with closing balance.
	General administration and collection charges.	Public Works.	Education.	Hospitals and Dispensaries.	Conservancy.	Lighting.	Repayment of loans.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rangoon ...	3,88,199	3,50,339	1,00,721	98,371	3,51,980	45,648	4,62,500	11,58,180	66,73,120
Akyab ...	14,579	27,786	6,343	23,354	31,454	8,949	2,292	19,269	1,52,422
Kyaukpyu ...	1,091	1,063	1,500	3,034	1,950	...	...	3,574	13,548
Sandoway ...	1,327	763	565	3,128	656	932	880	3,827	13,124
Pegu ...	8,362	23,365	4,000	19,744	16,121	4,060	...	37,427	1,38,867
Thônzè ...	3,601	4,007	1,703	2,943	4,454	4,379	...	45,953	70,813
Letpadan ...	6,749	5,023	2,032	4,816	4,258	1,894	1,101	14,848	52,683
Gyobingauk ...	4,383	8,052	1,853	3,077	6,200	1,401	...	21,801	66,685
Prome ...	10,017	26,192	7,000	6,806	40,234	3,939	11,805	52,411	2,95,885
Paungdè ...	3,277	10,824	3,780	2,526	4,230	1,961	...	29,449	66,711
Ma-ubin ...	3,674	2,701	2,464	4,490	7,305	660	429	30,470	64,872
Yandoon ...	5,418	16,584	1,822	4,357	6,300	1,992	5,395	4,369	56,022
Bassein ...	13,185	47,791	7,500	20,066	25,280	12,093	...	37,530	1,99,829
Ngathainggyaung ...	2,302	3,357	1,356	2,961	4,106	...	...	9,991	29,058
Henzada ...	11,080	39 396	6,800	11,330	15,459	4,484	970	10,659	1,20,563
Zalun ...	3,506	4,810	864	1,822	3,537	...	...	2,776	19,973
Myanaung ...	2,287	2,534	3,000	3,122	4,604	83	...	7,626	25,722
Kyangin ...	1,924	2,112	2,000	894	5,202	49	...	4,250	19,771
Myaungmya ...	6,591	4,726	1,500	5,760	5,133	812	1,504	8,005	43,966
Toungoo ...	7,486	17,705	8,571	9,996	24,463	8,237	...	11,174	1,00,268
Shwegyin ...	2,836	4	3,500	3,007	3,233	1,846	1,115	8,674	27,570
Kyaikto ...	3,466	2,133	738	3,329	2,953	2,022	...	8,259	30,491
Thatôn ...	6,762	4,597	3,300	25,088	4,634	2,665	...	15,011	71,898
Moulmein ...	23,588	59,373	...	28,159	42,168	43,501	...	1,27,812	7,66,329
Tavoy ...	5,241	1,856	3,000	5,592	13,171	...	...	9,365	42,982
Mergui ...	4,374	4,430	3,000	3,899	5,339	4,306	370	15,468	45,743
Thayetmyo ...	5,303	3,168	1,500	28,460	8,702	821	...	2,462	56,459
Allanmyo ...	3,316	2,729	1,196	5,155	4,099	...	...	15,531	36,623
Pakôkku ...	11,116	9,345	600	4,369	11,103	3,314	...	4,647	52,947
Minbu ...	2,844	5,096	...	38	4,912	294	...	6,078	25,723
Salin ...	2,665	4,727	276	2,459	7,652	989	...	3,575	26,435
Taungdwingyi ...	1,366	2,941	...	3,803	2,905	...	...	2,545	17,421
Mandalay ...	72,784	1,25,772	54,600	75,009	1,11,655	43,003	...	3 61,497	15,46,253
Bhamo ...	3,553	1,920	...	6,194	11,526	3,608	...	5,640	38,303
Shwebo ...	2,951	11,869	600	4,434	4,657	4,137	...	3,337	44,390
Sagaing ...	2,595	3,922	2,259	5,451	6,582	2,995	...	3,516	39,630
Mônywa ...	4,998	4,294	...	3,291	6,680	...	...	3,031	30,047
Kyaukse ...	2,219	4,720	...	4,625	5,612	1,304	...	6,208	28,268
Yamèthin ...	2,443	3,932	410	3,078	4,049	1,178	...	4,815	26,963
Pyinmana ...	6,251	8,714	...	4,758	6,863	5,402	...	17,064	55,329
Myingyan ...	3,875	6,704	200	8,882	7,437	4,646	...	19,264	60,344

The Rangoon Land Reclamation Fund was for the first time excluded from the municipal accounts. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,81,290. Loans to the amount of 16 lakhs were transferred to the account of the fund. The house and land-tax increased by 8 and the conservancy tax by 9 per cent. The charge for pensions and gratuities rose from Rs. 16,488 to Rs. 50,564 owing to the retirement of certain employés. A sum of Rs. 1,69,182 was spent in acquiring land for new offices. At Pegu the house and land-tax trebled, chiefly on account of a new tax on uncovered areas, and there was a large increase in the income from markets and slaughter-houses. There was a correspondingly larger outlay on public works and hospitals. At Prome, on the other hand, the land-tax rate was reduced by one-half, and a considerable decrease resulted. Moulmein shows substantial increases in the revenue from taxation and markets. The revenue from markets and slaughter-houses showed a large increase at Ma-ubin and Bassein, but declined at Toungoo and Thatôn. At Mandalay the house and land tax rose by Rs. 11,247 owing to an increase in the number of assessees, a fact which seems to indicate that the decline in the population which was noticeable at the last census has reached a turning point. There was a loss of over half a lakh owing to the fire in the Zegyo market.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES.

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for 1903.

Notes and Statistics on Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for 1903.

Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.

Ninth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1903-04. Tables No. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

System of Registration.

149. The registration of vital statistics is one of the duties of the village headmen, and of the ward headmen who exercise some of their functions in the towns. A counterfoil book is supplied to each headman and the Township Officer or the town authorities compile monthly returns from the outer foils, which, in the case of villages, are collected by police patrol constables. The wilder and more inaccessible tracts are excluded from registration, and in Upper Burma births are recorded only in the towns. The ratio per thousand shown in the tables is based on the census of 1901. Excluding the Shan States and Chin Hills, where there is no registration, the rate of increase between 1891 and 1901 for Lower Burma was 2·26 *per cent. per annum*, and for Upper Burma 1·6 *per cent.* Assuming a similar rate of increase since the census of 1901, the population in 1904 in Lower Burma would be 6·79 and in Upper Burma 4·83 *per cent.* more than the census figures, and the nominal ratio per thousand should be reduced by $\frac{1}{15}$ in the former and $\frac{1}{21}$ in the latter in order to arrive at approximately correct figures. The ratio given below is in each case the nominal ratio.

Births.

150. In Lower Burma the number of births recorded was 184,561, the males exceeding the females by 6,683. The birth-rate rose from 31·57 to 33·54, which points to better registration. The rural birth-rate was 34·52, and the urban only 26·57. There is no doubt the registration in towns is unreliable. In the towns of Upper Burma the ratio was 37·48. Twenty-two per cent. of the boys and 16·8 of the girls born died before they were a year old. As, however, 108 boys are born for every 100 girls, there is no great inequality of the sexes after the end of the first year.

Deaths.

151. In Lower Burma the deaths numbered 132,767, the death-rate rose from 21·16 to 24·13. This was probably a real increase owing to the abnormally heavy rains, following a prolonged drought. In Upper Burma the deaths were 62,941. Here too the death-rate rose from 17·29 to 21·80. The rainfall, light at the beginning of the season, was abnormally heavy in October and November. Registration is still very defective, Meiktila showing a death-rate of 12·02 and several other districts very low ratios. Both parts of the province showed a large increase in deaths from cholera, which numbered in all over 8,000. These, however, affect the death-rate comparatively little. The increase was due mainly to fevers and bowel complaints.

Emigration and Immigration.

152. There is practically no emigration from the province, but there is a constant stream of immigrants from India. Most of these return after having made a little money, but a large number settle down in the country. The only statistics available are of persons arriving and leaving by steamer at the ports of Rangoon and Akyab. At Rangoon 165,555 arrived and 115,770 left, at Akyab 14,670 arrived and 24,029 left. This leaves a balance of 40,426 to increase the population. The increase is really greater, for the fact that the returns show an excess of over 9,000 in departures from Akyab is due to Chittagonians entering the district by inland routes in search of work and leaving with their earnings by the safer and quicker steamer route. Their entry would not be shown in the returns.

Medical Relief.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES. Administration.

153. Colonel Little, M.D., I.M.S., was Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals from January 1st to May 28th, and Colonel Benson, M.B., I.M.S., for the rest of the year.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.

154. When the year began there were, under the control of the Inspector-General and available for the general public, 113 hospitals and 16 dispensaries in the province. During the year seven dispensaries were opened and one closed. The number of in-door patients admitted to these hospitals rose from 42,168 to 47,934. Of these 77 per cent. were discharged cured and 8 per cent. relieved, while six per cent. died. Medicines were dispensed in 931,260 cases, an advance of 48,014 over the previous year. The number of surgical operations performed was 23,086. Of the total number of in-door patients 14 per cent. were women and children, and of the persons to whom medicines were dispensed 43 per cent. In addition to the above there were under the control of the Inspector-General 13 special hospitals for the Military Police, where 15,734 in-patients were treated and medicines dispensed in 66,039 cases; and 20 railway dispensaries treating 50,509 persons. The Dufferin Maternity Hospital, which is partly supported by Government, treated 715 in-patients and dispensed medicines to 2,324; and four Christian mission dispensaries dealt with over 2,000 cases.

Principal diseases treated.

155. In the Lower Burma hospitals the most prevalent disease was worms, which were treated in 91,464 cases. Dyspepsia, diarrhœa, and other diseases of the digestive system accounted for 82,616, malarial fevers for 76,854, ulcers 64,254, skin diseases 42,753, and local injuries, mostly from assaults, 38,939. In Upper Burma worms were much less prevalent, accounting for only 21,517 cases. Malaria heads the list with 68,130, followed by diseases of the digestive system with 63,499 and eye affections with 60,296. Ulcers again hold an important place, the cases numbering 45,028, but skin diseases and local injuries were both under 20,000. Cholera patients were treated in the hospitals of the province to the number of 674 and small-pox cases to the number of 271.

Financial.

156. The total expenditure was Rs. 7,94,045, a slight increase over the previous year. Nearly half of this was met from municipal and local funds and 42 per cent. by Government. Subscriptions and donations amounted to Rs. 37,423.

Sanitation.

Conservancy.

157. The expenditure on removal of night-soil and street refuse was Rs. 12,64,397, of which Rs. 2,94,131 were spent in Rangoon. An interesting experiment was tried at Maymyo in the construction of a septic tank for night-soil at a cost of Rs. 5,500. The tanks are specially fitted to hasten natural decomposition. Solids are liquified by the action of bacteria, and the sewage passes in a continuous stream into a filter bed, where it is further purified and rendered fit to be discharged. The experiment has so far proved successful.

Drainage.

158. Over two lakhs are reported to have been spent on drainage, but the figures are of little value as they cannot be separated from those for road-making and conservancy.

Water-supply.

159. All the municipalities outside Rangoon get their supply of water from rivers or wells, and expenditure under this head is generally insignificant. Out of a total of Rs. 32,15,263, twenty-one lakhs were spent on a new scheme for Rangoon and four lakhs on water-works at Moulmein. It is hoped that both these schemes will be in working order in the course of a year. Rangoon is at present supplied with water from the Victoria lake, which was constructed for the purpose. Owing to insufficient rains in 1903 the lake fell short by three feet of the full supply level, and to prevent a water-famine it was necessary to adopt stringent measures for the prevention of waste, the supply being cut off where waste was detected, and to make use for a time of the water of the Royal Lakes, which proved unfit for drinking purposes and led to a large increase in bowel complaints.

Plague.

160. Ten imported cases of plague were discovered, but not a single indigenous case has yet been reported in Burma. This satisfactory result amply justifies the strict enforcement of the sanitary regulations. Some inconvenience to shipping

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

and to individuals has been caused thereby, but after a very careful consideration of the special cases which have been represented the Local Government has found it impossible to agree to any relaxation of the rules which is likely to impair their efficiency.

Sanitary Board.

161. The Sanitary Board met twice during the year at Rangoon and Moulmein, and gave advice on a number of references from Municipalities.

Vaccination.

162. The number of vaccinators was increased from 213 to 224. Their salaries are defrayed mainly from local funds. It is complained that their work is unsatisfactory and the question of taking measures for securing better supervision and improved pay and prospects for the staff has been under consideration. The number of operations was 398,634, and the ratio of success 87·2.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.

Report of the Insein Reformatory School for 1903.

Ninth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-04 and preceding years Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), and XII (The Press).

General system of Public Instruction.

163. This is explained on pages 92 to 98 of the Report for 1901-02. Some of the facts therein stated, however, are out of date. There are now five Inspectors, 45 Deputy Inspectors, and 178 itinerant teachers. There are five high schools, and 14 normal (training) schools, of which three are vernacular only, two Anglo-vernacular only, and the rest for both classes of students. All the high and middle schools have primary departments attached to them. Result grants have been abolished, and also the Karen teachers' system grants. The *Patamabyan* has now four grades, the *Patamagyi* coming before the *Patamagyaw*.

Education.

Number of Schools and Attendance.

164. The number of schools in the province recognized by the Education Department was 19,716, attended by 347,135 scholars, of whom 47,466 were girls. The percentage of boy scholars to the male population of school-going age was 38·6, and that of girls 6·35. The public institutions (*i.e.*, those managed or aided by the State or by municipalities) numbered 5,557, and were attended by 187,098 scholars. All these figures show a substantial increase over those of last year, when the total attendance was 331,525 and the percentages 37·22 and 5·71.

Finance.

165. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 22,74,002 to Rs. 23,90,735. This was met partly by fees, which increased from Rs. 6,15,591 to Rs. 6,80,207, and partly by grants from provincial, municipal and local funds. A scheme by which the pay of teachers in municipal and Government schools was made more uniform and in most cases considerably raised was introduced during the year. In lieu of a fixed grant Government now pays half the prescribed salary of teachers in municipal schools, provided that the teacher has passed the Government test. As a result of this scheme the provincial grants increased by Rs. 91,836, from 37 to 39 *per cent.* of the whole, while the municipal share fell from 11·4 to 10·4. Itinerant teachers have been made pensionable servants. It has not been found possible to arrange for pensions for municipal teachers.

Vernacular Education.

166. Primary schools (*i.e.*, those teaching up to Standard IV) have increased from 4,264 to 4,511, and the attendance from 123,540 to 132,116. A new curriculum, of a more practical character and better adapted to the needs of agriculturists, has been introduced, and better terms offered to managers of private schools. The secondary schools (*i.e.*, those teaching in higher standards) increased from 261 to 269, and the attendance from 17,395 to 17,908. Model schools on a somewhat expensive scale were proposed, but have been abandoned in favour of buildings on the ordinary village school plan. Salaries were paid to 82 private managers, and a system of fixed grants, not based on examination but framed on the lines approved by the Simla Conference, is about to be introduced. Vernacular secondary education makes its way slowly, and the number of passes in the Seventh Standard which rose rapidly up to 1901, has since then steadily declined.

Anglo-vernacular Education.

167. In Anglo-vernacular schools under official control English and Burmese are taught side by side up to the Fourth Standard. After that English is the medium of instruction so far as books are concerned, but explanations are given in the vernacular up to the Seventh Standard, above which English is the sole medium. The number of schools increased from 76 to 77, and the attendance from 14,267 to 15,769. There has been a tendency to open small private schools with inad-

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

equate staffs, but this has not been encouraged. In Rangoon the accommodation was inadequate. Passes in the Seventh Standard, which is the minimum test required for entering Government service, have steadily increased and reached a total of 548. In the higher standards the results are less satisfactory, the passes in the Calcutta Entrance examination being only 105 against 151 in the previous year.

Collegiate Education.

168. The Rangoon and Baptist Colleges are the only institutions in the province which go beyond the Ninth Standard. In the former the number of students rose from 160 to 166; in the latter from 18 to 28. The B.A. passes were 7 and the F.A. 18. The total number was below the average of the previous five years, but one student took first class honours in English and stood first in order of merit in the Calcutta University.

Female education.

169. The number of girls in public schools rose from 38,492 to 43,017 and the total number from 42,617 to 47,466.

Training of teachers.

170. New Government training schools for masters were opened during the year at Rangoon and Akyab, bringing the number to eight. The attendance increased from 357 to 473. For mistresses there were six aided schools. The attendance did not increase.

Technical education.

171. Proposals for the improvement of technical and industrial education are under consideration. So far there is little technical education in the province. A Government engineering school at Insein was attended by 75 pupils. There were three technical and three industrial schools under private management. Drawing was taught in 26 Anglo-vernacular and 14 vernacular schools, and 1,325 pupils passed the tests out of 2,754 sent up. Vocal music was taken up by 21 schools and needle-work in some girls' schools, but this and kindred industries as a part of girls' education are much neglected.

Survey schools.

172. There are 18 Government survey schools in the province. The number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March was 455, of whom 140 were free pupils, the rest paying the school fee of Re. 1 or Rs. 2 per mensem. There was a marked falling off in numbers in the year, due in great measure to the application of the new tentative rule, making the Fourth Standard compulsory for admissions into the Lower Burma schools. Scholarships to the number of 68 of Rs. 10 and 134 of Rs. 5 per mensem were given to deserving scholars. The cost on this account came to Rs. 14,913. A sum of Rs. 480 for prizes was allotted to the various schools according to their relative strength and awarded on the result of a local test examination. Only 33 boys of the total number were holders of the Seventh Standard certificate. Sixty-nine passed candidates are reported to have obtained permanent work, and large numbers secured temporary appointments. More boys would obtain immediate employment were it not for the strong ties of home and the general unwillingness to go to other districts. The total expenditure on schools amounted to Rs. 39,896 against an income of Rs. 6,377, which gives the net cost at Rs. 33,519. The cost, therefore, of educating each pupil was Rs. 72, higher by Rs. 10 than that of the previous year owing to the diminished attendance in the year of report.

Insein Reformatory school.

173. The number of boys detained at the Insein Reformatory decreased from 86 to 82. Discipline and conduct were fairly good.

Non-Burman schools.

174. There were 33 schools for Europeans (including Eurasians) with 2,431 pupils, but of these 270 were natives. The latter are being gradually withdrawn. A school for sons of *Sawbwas* at Taunggyi in the Southern Shan States did well under a European head-master and was attended by 82 boys. Karens, Shans, Chinese, Talaings, Chins, Kachins, Taungthus, Manipuris and Madrasis all had their own schools, mostly under mission management.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

175. The number of publications registered under Act XXV of 1867 rose from 123 to 146, including 21 republications. Only five works were published in English, of which one was religious and one legal, and five, mostly on the Burmese language, in English and Burmese. The number of Burmese works was 68, of which

five were religious, 32 drama or fiction, and 11 songs, while the rest included books on language, law, medicine, astrology and fortune-telling. Forty-three works in Burmese and Pali were nearly all religious, as were 11 out of 13 in Pali alone, five in Sgau-Karen, and two in Shan. An Urdu geography, a Bengali play, and a spelling-book in Kachin were published. Educational works numbered 11 and included several useful books, and there were some legal works of merit. Otherwise the secular publications were generally of little value.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

English newspapers and periodicals.

176. The principal English dailies are the *Rangoon Gazette*, with a circulation of 1,500 copies, and the *Rangoon Times*, with a circulation of 1,000. Both these papers issue weekly editions. The *Rangoon Advertiser* also issues 1,000 copies. The *Times of Burma* is published in Rangoon twice a week, and has a circulation of 1,250. At Mandalay the *Upper Burma Gazette*, with a circulation of 350, is published daily and the *Mandalay Herald* three times a week. Akyab has two papers with a circulation of 150 each, issued two and three times a week. The *Moulmein Advertiser* circulates 500 copies. Some advertising sheets were also issued in Rangoon, Mandalay and Prome. All the English papers except those at Akyab were controlled by persons of European extraction. Only religious periodicals were published by private persons. The *Buddhist Quarterly Magazine*, published in Rangoon, had a circulation of 3,000.

Vernacular newspapers and periodicals.

177. Two Burmese newspapers, the *Friend of Burma* and the *Burma Herald*, issued daily nearly 1,000 copies each in Rangoon. The *Times of Burma* has a Burmese edition. At Moulmein the *Burma Times* had a circulation of 900. The American Baptist Mission Press issued 600 copies monthly of the *Burmese Messenger* and 1,100 of the Karen *Morning Star*, besides religious monthly periodicals in Burmese, Pwo-Karen, and Sgau-Karen, the last reaching a circulation of over 8,000. The Burmese *Hanthawaddy Weekly Review* had a circulation of 1,000, and the *Karen National News*, issued twice a week, of 800. The Society for promoting Buddhism issued 1,000 copies monthly of a Burmese review.

Literary Societies.

See Report for 1901-02, page 101.

Arts and Sciences.

178. The usual Art Handicraft competition was held in January in Rangoon under the patronage of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. About a fourth of the exhibitors were from towns outside of Rangoon, but competition was severe only in the silverwork class, which showed a distinct advance over the previous year. The wood-carving was poor and there were but few exhibits. Statuettes in bronze, copper, and silver nickels maintained the high standard attained in previous years.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE—

Report on Archæological work in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1904.

179. The principal work carried out was the restoration and repair of the *Pyatthats* (pavilions with successive carved roofs) on the walls of the Fort at Mandalay at a total cost of about Rs. 67,000, of which Rs. 42,540 were spent during the year. A further sum of Rs. 5,468 was expended in repairing the Palace buildings, Rs. 3,076 on the Queen's Monastery at Mandalay, and Rs. 17,812 on the Ananda, Thatbyinnu, Shwegugyi, Gawdawpalin, and Manuha pagodas at Pagan, where Rs. 4,875 out of an estimated cost of Rs. 7,898 was spent in building a museum. Steps were also taken to establish a museum at Mandalay for the preservation of relics connected with the native dynasty. The expenditure on salaries, etc., was Rs. 16,547.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical jurisdiction.

See page 104 of the Report for 1901-02.

Ecclesiastical.

180. Eight Chaplains under a Bishop and Archdeacon are sanctioned for the province, but owing to the difficulty of filling two successive vacancies the establishment was complete for only one month in the year. There have been several applications for transfer to India owing to the high cost of living in Burma. Bhamo was without a chaplain. The formation of a new station, with troops and a large number of Government Servants, at Maymyo has increased the work. The erection of a suitable church at Maymyo has been deferred till it has been decided to what extent troops are to be permanently stationed there. The clergy of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel have shown frequent failures in health, and seven out of thirteen have been sent to England in the last two years.

Stationery.

181. As in previous years, the stationery required for Government use throughout the province was procured from the Comptroller of Stationery, Calcutta. The cost was Rs. 2,72,429 or Rs. 32,298 less than in the previous year. Except in the higher grades, of which comparatively small supplies are needed, the paper used is of Indian manufacture. These papers are improving in finish and quality and are well suited to all ordinary official purposes.

G. B. C. P. O.—No.—524, Chief Secy., 6-1-1905—593—H.S.K.

REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1904-05.

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REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1904-05.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Introductory. The references from which this report has been compiled are indicated at the head of each Chapter in Part II. The departmental reports refer to varying periods. The records of Revenue, Land Records and Forest administration and the Season and Crop Report are for the agricultural year ending the 30th June 1905. Police, Judicial, Jail and Sanitary affairs are dealt with for the calendar year 1904. The record of other matters is for the official year ending the 31st March 1905. Certain items of standing information are omitted. They are recorded in the Administration Report for 1901-02, where, as in this report, the headings are distinguished by red letters.

The Administration. 2. Sir Hugh Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., held charge of the administration throughout the year. With the exception of unimportant modifications of certain district and township bonndaries, the coustitution of a new subdivision and the addition of a new township, the territorial units of Civil Administration remained unaltered. Important changes were, however, made in the administration of justice by the formation, at the close of the year, of separate Judicial Services in Lower Burma, whereby the Commissioners of four divisions and the Deputy Commissioners of thirteen districts were relieved, wholly or in part, of their judicial duties, and the pay and prospects of subordinate Judges were improved.

Southern Shan States. 3. In the Southern Shan States there were no untoward border incidents to check the steady progress of good government and material welfare. The Political Officers had however to deal with individual cases of inept or despotic conduct among the Chiefs, and a thorough enquiry was held into the causes of the popular discontent which had threatened the peace of Yawnghwe State. A successful and well-attended durbar was held by Sir Hugh Barnes in March, and was followed by a cattle show and an exhibition of arts and crafts, which served to illustrate the great resources of the country, and the need of a railway to extend its markets. The replacement of the military garrison by Military Police was completed, internal communications improved, and the principles of the revenue system embodied in a simple Code of Rules. There was no serious increase of crime. A dangerous gang of robbers was successfully dispersed by one of the Chiefs, and the

leader killed. The school for the sons of Shan Chiefs continued to flourish and measures were taken for the improvement of indigenous schools. Agricultural conditions were favourable, and tribute and taxes were paid for the most part without difficulty.

Northern Shan States.

4. The complete tranquillity of the Northern Shan States was only threatened by an abortive rising under a religious fanatic, who, with many of his followers, was killed by the Military Police. The satisfaction of border claims was again obtained by meetings with the Chinese authorities, and this method of adjustment was extended to the ill-administered state of Mêng Ting. Partial failures of the staple food crops were counterbalanced by the facilities for trade afforded by the railway, to which, also, are to be traced a large increase of crime among the alien population and the more frequent resort to the Civil Courts. The tea crop was abundant and commanded good prices. The work of the Police was satisfactory, and nearly all serious cases were brought to light. Fiscal independence was still withheld from the Acting Chief of Hsipaw pending the liquidation of his debts, and an Adviser was appointed to reduce to order the financial chaos produced by similar extravagance in Tawngpeng. The rate of tribute in the Kachin tracts was raised and the demand paid without difficulty. Expert assistance was obtained from Burma for the supervision of the extensive public works undertaken by the Chiefs, and similar action towards the furtherance of education is contemplated.

The petty States of Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkamti were quiet and prosperous. In both of them, and in Möng Mit, which was still administered under Government control, an abundant rainfall produced an excellent harvest.

The Chin Hills.

5. Raids by trans-frontier villages continued to interrupt the peace of the Chin Hills, but the development of the people made remarkable progress. The resentment caused by the unprovoked attacks from across the border did not assume an active form, and the peaceful resort of the Chins to the plains continued unchecked. In the Pakôkku tract a shortage of crops caused some anxiety, but good relations were maintained with trans-frontier villages with the help of the Chin Police, who have almost entirely replaced the Military Police force. The Piya Chins on the Upper Chindwin border made their submission and the blockade, which had been enforced against them, was removed.

Kachin Hills.

6. Regard for administrative efficiency necessitated the constitution of a new charge in the Kachin Hill tracts of the Myitkyina district. Border cases with China were adjusted satisfactorily with the help of the Chinese officials and the Consular authorities at Yünnan-Fü and Têngyüeh to whom this government is much indebted for cordial assistance on all occasions. A brutal murder, ascribed to Kachins from across the pale, was a symptom of unsettled conditions to the north. The internal administration of the Hills was uneventful, crime was light, and tribute was collected without difficulty in spite of an indifferent harvest. The output of jade increased enormously, and the Hukawng Valley sent in large quantities of amber and rubber. Fourteen trans-frontier Chiefs paid a visit to the Deputy Commissioner at Myitkyina, at which border affairs were discussed, and the opium policy, which has been the cause of some irritation across the border, was explained.

7. The material prosperity of the people continued to improve. The rice crop was below normal, but prices were good and in spite of a somewhat capricious rainfall there was no check to the steady extension of cultivation. Condition of the people.

8. Owing to an indifferent season, both remissions and outstandings of land revenue were heavier than in the previous year. The former amounted to Rs. 2,90,414 and the latter to Rs. 70,725, but the collections were nearly 14¾ lakhs in excess of 1903-04. The same cause operated to enhance the difficulties of collection in the case of fishery revenue, of which Rs. 41,436 or 1·4 per cent. of the net demand (including arrears from the previous year) remained outstanding at the close of the year. The outstandings of water-rate, capitation-tax and *thathameda* were trifling, the collections amounting to Rs. 31,665, Rs. 49,84,819 and Rs. 48,63,120 respectively. Resort was had to coercive process for the recovery of Rs. 11,15,107 of revenue, of which 86 per cent. was realised. Process was directed against immoveable property in a large number of cases, warrants of attachment being 30 per cent. and actual sales 39 per cent. more numerous than in the previous year, but arrests of the person were less than half as frequent. Realisation of the revenue.

9. Three hundred and sixty-five square miles in the Pakôkku district and nine hundred and eleven square miles in Thayetmyo besides smaller areas in Katha, Mergui and Mandalay, were demarcated with a view to survey. The Survey of India party (No. 7) made good progress in the first-named district and completed the large scale survey of the extensions of the Rangoon Municipality. Revision surveys were carried out by local agency over an area of 972 square miles of country, exclusive of the work on island cultivation which is undertaken annually, the work being either preliminary to settlement or the necessary result of rapid extensions of cultivation, and local parties executed original surveys in Katha and Tavoy over an area of 139 square miles for settlement purposes. The towns of Maymyo, Pegu and Tavoy were mapped on a large scale. Surveys.

10. The settlement of portions of the Hanthawaddy, Prome and Tharrawaddy districts was completed during the year, and the rates notified. The original settlement parties operating in Katha, Shwebo and Tavoy completed their field work, and work was commenced in the Mandalay Canal tract. In the Myaungmya district rates were revised and published, and revision operations were pushed forward in the adjoining district of Ma-ubin, while the reports for Kyauksè and Mandalay were completed, and work commenced in Minbu. Summary settlements were effected in Kyaukpyu and Meiktila. The two settlements which received the orders of Government resulted in enhancements in the revenue demand of 50 per cent. and 37 per cent., respectively, and cost four annas or less per acre. Settlements.

11. The system of annual correction of cadastral maps was extended over an area of 918 square miles, and is now employed in the assessment of nearly 240 lakhs of rupees of revenue. The cost of the Land Records Department, which was strengthened during the year, amounted to Rs. 23·8 per square mile of cultivation and 4·25 per cent. of the revenue assessment, the latter being 1¾ lakhs in excess of the previous year. There was a falling off in the attendance at Government survey schools owing to the raising of the educational test for admittance. Land records.

Transfers of land.

12. The average sale price of land rose from Rs. 34 to Rs. 38 per acre. Speculation was rife in two districts, but on the whole sales were less frequent than in the previous year, as the chetties were reluctant to advance money to intending purchasers except at exorbitant interest. On the other hand land was very extensively mortgaged to cover losses inflicted by cattle disease, the area under mortgage at the end of the year being over ten lakhs of acres.

Waste lands.

13. In the Pegu Division the issue of grants for the cultivation of waste land was suspended, and elsewhere applications were less numerous. Progress was made with the disposal of long standing cases in Lower Burma, and there was a strong demand for land in the new district of Pyapôn, but the whole area granted or leased was 123,00 acres less than in the previous year, applications in the Upper Province being mainly confined to the tracts under the Mandalay and Shwebo canal systems. The area granted free of revenue included, in Upper Burma, land assigned to headmen as an appanage of their office, and amounted to 779 acres.

Land holders and tenancies.

14. Eighty-six per cent. of the occupied area was held by agriculturists, the proportion being slightly higher than in the previous year. Local failures of crops induced non-resident landlords to sell some of their holdings in Thatôn, which mostly passed into the hands of resident non-agriculturists. The area occupied by the latter class increased from 622,651 to 695,394 acres.

The average tenancy rent was Rs. 9·78 per acre and was paid on an area of 2,226,630 acres, both figures being considerably higher than in the previous year.

Legislation.

15. The undermentioned Acts were passed by the Legislative Council during the year :—

I of 1904, The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act.
II of 1904, The Burma Towns and Village Laws Amendment Act.
III of 904, The Burma Excise Law Amendment Act.

Four important Bills were introduced in the Council and were enacted after the close of the calendar year. The subjects dealt with by these enactments are the amendment of the Gambling Law, the administration and management of canals, the revision and consolidation of the law relating to fisheries, and the administration of the affairs of the Port of Rangoon.

Portions of the Municipal Law of Burma were extended by notification to the Shan States and provision was made for the municipal administration of Lashio.

Police.

16. The conduct and discipline of the police force was on the whole satisfactory, but the year was distinguished by an increase of crime in several of its more serious phases both in Rangoon and in the more populous districts of Lower Burma, and by the failure of the police to deal with it adequately. It is hoped that the reforms about to be introduced will result in substantial improvement both in the prevention and detection crime. In the simpler forms of theft, in excise and opium cases and in violent crimes a somewhat more satisfactory degree of success was attained by the police, and there were not lacking instances of real detective ability in important cases, such as that which brought to justice the chief actor in a brutal murder committed in a railway carriage. Another murderer paid the penalty of a crime ten years old. Headmen and villagers gave effective

co-operation and on occasions displayed signal address and courage in attacking dacoits. The surveillance of criminals was more complete in Rangoon than in the outlying districts, where many habituals have evaded attention. Punitive police were employed in four cases.

The policy of developing the military instincts of the indigenous races was extended by the enlistment of 50 Shans in the Military Police, the strength of which was increased by seven companies for service in the Southern Shan States.

17. The constitution of the courts was unaltered, but relief was afforded by the appointment of a temporary Additional Sessions Judge and several additional magistrates. The increase of 6,000 in the number of cases instituted in the courts, though mainly due to the enforcement of Municipal bye-laws and minor enactments, included a large number of prosecutions for grievous hurt, and the percentage of convictions deteriorated both in regular cases and in proceedings for bad livelihood. The delegation of enhanced powers to subordinate Magistrates relieved some of the Sessions Courts, but the Sessions business of the Chief Court almost doubled. Long terms of imprisonment and transportations were more numerous than in the previous year, and a larger number of petty cases were met by the imposition of a fine or by the demand of security for good behaviour, while whipping was more sparingly inflicted. Increased resort was made to the Appellate Courts, and the percentage of non-interference was remarkably low in parts of Lower Burma. A very large number of cases were scrutinized on revision. Five thousand one hundred and twenty-four persons were pending trial at the close of the year. Criminal justice.

18. The number of Central and District Jails remained the same as in the previous year, and the existing accommodation was adjusted to growing needs without difficulty. The number of admissions and the daily average of prisoners were greater than in the previous two years. Five out of seven prisoners who escaped were recaptured. Discipline improved, more than half of the major offences being committed by habitual criminals. Murderous assaults were committed on jail officials at Insein and Mandalay, but there was no general outbreak. Anticipatory purchases and a growing jail population raised the total expenditure, but the net cost of each prisoner to the State was reduced by economical management. The profits from manufactures were the highest on record, and the jail gardens realised a profit on surplus vegetables sold to the public. The health of the prisoners was generally good. There were fewer admissions and daily sick in hospital than in the previous year, but the death rate was slightly higher owing to the occurrence of cholera and dysentery at Mandalay. Prisons.

19. The introduction of the separate judicial services did not take place till after the close of the year, but the growing volume of litigation necessitated the appointment of a few Additional Judges. The increase in the number of original suits, which was most remarkable in the Delta districts of Lower Burma, was responsible for a heavy list of pending cases, but the duration of decided cases was shorter than in the previous year. The great majority of the new cases were suits for the recovery of money or moveable property in the Township Courts, but there was a notable rise in mortgage suits. Both are attributable to the normal growth of trade and population. Many cases of high value were instituted in the Chief Court and in the District Courts. Applications for execution of decrees were 2,000 Civil justice.

in excess of the previous year and a smaller proportion was infructuous, though the total amount realised shewed a decrease. The growth of original litigation did not materially affect the number of appeals, except in the Chief Court, and there was little change in the degree of interference exercised, which was highest in the Divisional Courts of Lower Burma. Fewer inspections were performed by the Judges of the Chief Court, but the Judges of Divisional and District Courts found time for more than usual. Improvements were effected in the accommodation of the Courts and in the management of court libraries and record-rooms.

Registration.

20. The Registration law underwent no change during the year, but the forms were further simplified and the rules adapted to local requirements. Forty-four thousand three hundred and eighty-one transactions were registered in 145 offices and the aggregate value of the documents was Rs. 8,21,05,739. The main features of the year were the rise in the value of land, especially near Rangoon, and the tendency of outright sales to displace mortgages of agricultural holdings in parts of Upper Burma. The net receipts from registration amounted to Rs. 1,23,231, the increase of expenditure being proportionately greater than that of receipts owing to increases in the pay of clerks and in the staff of the Rangoon Office.

Municipal Administration.

21. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly a lakh of rupees, and the incidence of taxation per head of population by 7 annas 3 pies. The ordinary expenditure was more than Rs. 3,80,000 in excess of the previous year, chiefly owing to the greater cost of works on account of public health and convenience. A loan of two lakhs was raised for reclamation works, for which a separate banking account was opened, and Rs. 11,20,500 were borrowed for other purposes, the greater part being needed for the completion of the Hlawga water-works, which were formally opened by the Lieutenant-Governor in February 1905. The transfer of the control of the Municipal Hospitals to Government was accompanied by the surrender of an annual grant of over two lakhs in lieu of Excise receipts. The ordinary income of the forty minor municipalities amounted to Rs. 26,20,502 and their expenditure to Rs. 29,94,161. The incidence of taxation fell slightly. New service taxes were introduced in two towns, and in four others new imposts were levied or old ones extended, but the total receipts from Municipal taxation were Rs. 8,500 lower than in the previous year. On the other hand, there was a large increase in receipts from markets and slaughter houses, and grants and contributions from Government and other sources were more liberal. Heavier expenditure was incurred on public safety, and street lighting was extended in several towns. Large water-works were completed at Moulmein and Prome, and an important scheme for Akyab has been prepared and is being financed. Experiments were undertaken at Mandalay and smaller projects were pushed forward elsewhere. The drainage systems of several of the large towns were improved and the expenditure on conservancy rose by more than Rs. 28,000. Hospital accommodation was newly provided or improved at several towns and sites for camps were set aside for plague patients. The Electric Tramways at Mandalay were opened and achieved instant success. More money was spent on Education than in the previous year and several Municipal Schools showed satisfactory results. Two more loans were taken from Government by the Committees of Toungoo and Ma-ubin. The receipts of Town

funds, the number of which was increased by two, were Rs. 4,09,292, and their expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,93,164.

Military and Volunteering.

22. The strength of the regular garrison of Burma was 9,311 officers and men, of whom 4,131 were Europeans. The volunteer force numbered 2,294 adults and 279 cadets, of whom 2,396 were efficients. There were also 157 reservists. Rs. 93,515 were earned in grants.

Military Works.

23. The military works undertaken during the year included a house for the Lieutenant-General Commanding at Maymyo and officers' quarters and an artillery mess house in Rangoon. New barracks for native troops were constructed at both stations. The water-supply at Maymyo, Shwebo and Mandalay and the sanitation of the British Infantry lines at Maymyo and Rangoon were improved. An armoury and quarters for the sergeant-instructor of the Upper Burma Volunteers were built at Maymyo.

Marine.

24. The light-houses and light-vessels were regularly visited, and details of all the light-houses have been submitted for the advice of the Trinity House Board. Estimates were prepared for a new structure at Beacon Island. A small light was erected at Mergui harbour, and various wharves in Lower Burma were constructed, extended or repaired. The river steamers of the Royal Indian Marine were fully occupied in the conveyance of troops, stores, and specie, and the flotilla of small vessels was increased by eight to meet growing requirements. The cost of the upkeep of the Provincial Flotilla was Rs. 5,69,639, and its earnings amounted to Rs. 3,65,917.

Port Administration.

25. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust increased by six lakhs, and the expenditure from revenue amounted to Rs. 15,84,759. A debenture loan of 20 lakhs was raised, and good progress was made with the heavy programme of improvements which the Trust has undertaken. Pilotage receipts amounted to Rs. 2,55,720. Heavy expenditure was incurred on precautionary measures against the plague. The income and expenditure of the minor ports were Rs. 3,36,562 and Rs. 3,49,868, respectively.

Commercial Marine.

26. The number of vessels entering and clearing from the port of Rangoon increased from 2,961 to 3,011 and their tonnage from 4,149,409 to 4,701,129. The gross tonnage in the ports of the province was 6,494,358, of which more than one-third represented shipping to or from foreign ports, while 159 vessels sailed under a foreign flag.

Agriculture.

27. Cattle disease and floods were responsible for exceptionally heavy mortality amongst plough animals, and were coincident in Lower Burma with an unfavourable rainfall, which, though there was no suspicion of scarcity, considerably reduced the surplus paddy available for exportation and therefore the capacity of the people to replace lost stock. The system of inoculation against rinderpest found increased favour with cattle-owners, and the Veterinary staff did much to reduce the dimensions of the calamity. Five cattle shows were held during the year, but were not entirely successful. A free distribution of agricultural loans mitigated the losses of cultivators, who borrowed four and half lakhs of rupees from Government, and the

concession of fallow rates has been made easier of attainment. An auspicious commencement was made with the system of Co-operative Credit Societies, by which it is hoped that the people will by their own efforts become independent of the native money-lender. Agricultural prices responded to the shortage in the main crop and the tenacity of speculators, but it is improbable that the people at large reaped any advantage from a market in which Rs. 110 per 100 baskets was paid in May 1905. There were local failures of the sessamum crop in Upper Burma, where the season was more than usually favourable to paddy cultivation. Embankments afforded protection to a smaller area than in the previous year owing to a serious breach in the Henzada district, but irrigation in Upper Burma was considerably more effective, an additional area of over 10,000 acres coming within the range of Government canal systems or private projects.

Weather and crops.

28. The coincidence of an unfavourable monsoon and a light paddy crop with very large extensions of the cropped area is explained partly by the insistent demands of a growing population, and partly by the fact that the rainfall, which was untimely and capricious in Lower Burma, was unusually well distributed in the Upper Province. Moreover, even in the delta, the commencement of the season was exceptionally hopeful, and the shortcomings of the harvest were the result of excesses and failures in the later months. Five per cent. of the crops sown failed to mature. In some places floods completely stopped agricultural operations, and in others three sowings were necessary to secure an indifferent crop. That the year can show an expansion of cultivation by nearly 600,000 acres is largely due to the rare timeliness and abundance of the rainfall in Upper Burma, and in particular in districts where the paddy crop is ordinarily precarious. The result was seen in a very general substitution of paddy for millet and other crops which are suited by a lighter rainfall. The effect of the favourable season in Shwebo, where 82,000 acres came newly under the plough, affords a happy augury for the time when the new canals will render a large area independent of variations of rainfall.

Horticulture.

29. The site of the Agri-Horticultural Gardens in Rangoon was removed to make room for the new General Hospital, and good progress was made with the equipment of the new gardens. Experimental gardens were maintained in various places in Upper Burma, the Chin Hills and the Southern Shan States, and some success attended the cultivation of fruit and vegetables. Potatoes did well, especially at Taunggyi, where, also, oats have survived the experimental stage.

The breeding of silkworms was a failure, but exotic tobacco was successfully grown in some districts. Tea and coffee were planted, the former without results, and the latter with very limited success. Further efforts were made to improve the outturn and quality of cotton by the selection and distribution of indigenous seed.

Forests.

30. An area of 373 square miles was added to the reserved forests of the Province, the cost of completed settlements being Rs. 14,423. The survey of 1,174 square miles was completed by two parties of the Survey of India, besides a large amount of rough survey by local officers, and 479 miles of forest boundaries were demarcated. One working plan was completed for an area of 39 square miles and others, involving 2,700 square miles, were under compilation. The

number of reported forest offences rose, chiefly owing to better supervision, by 28 per cent. There were 88 prosecutions for injuring forests by fire, and incendiarism was suspected in several other cases. Fires were unusually destructive in Lower Burma owing to the length of the dry season, and protection was only successful in 92 per cent. of the area in which it was attempted. The area of teak *taungya* plantations was largely extended, and protective fences were erected round the rubber plantation, which had suffered from the incursions of wild animals. There was a great expansion in the outturn of timber and fuel, though teak declined. *Pyingado* was extracted in large quantities for railway sleepers, and there was a heavy demand for unreserved timber and fuel. The receipts, which exceeded the expenditure by nearly 74½ lakhs, were swollen by the early sale of timber in the Pegu circle.

Mines and quarries.

31. The output of the oil-fields of Burma increased by 30½ million gallons, and there was a continuance of prospecting work in the main fields, which it is proposed to connect by a pipe-line with Rangoon.

The Burma Ruby Mines Company were slightly less successful in their operations. More ruby earth was treated, but the value of the stones obtained was Rs. 76,000 less than in the previous year. The gold-dredging industry continues to attract enterprise and a number of applications were received during the year. Tin was produced in slightly increased quantities but the coal-fields of the Province are yet to be found. The output of jade was nearly double that of the previous year, though there was delay in commencing work. Marble and steatite were also extracted in small quantities.

Manufactures.

32. There was no development of the home industries of the people, which continued to supply the bulk of their own simpler needs, and to supplement rather than to displace the pursuit of agriculture. The growth of the rice-milling trade was maintained, nine new mills being erected during the year. Defects of management or sanitation were brought to light in Rangoon and Bassein, and the necessity of regular inspection was emphasised. The general condition of the operatives was satisfactory.

Sea-borne trade.

33. The value of the maritime trade of the Province was Rs. 42,18,00,740, or 6·8 per cent. more than the record figure of the previous year. Rangoon absorbed 81 per cent. of the total trade and 98 per cent. of the foreign imports, of which cotton goods formed more than one quarter. The decline of the silk and match trade with Japan and the persistence with which American oil was forced into competition with the local product were features of the year. Rice comprised 81 per cent. of the foreign exports from Rangoon and 92 per cent. of those from the minor ports, while it had a predominant share in the abnormal development of the outward coasting trade, which increased by one crore and 47 lakhs. The demand for rice in Japan, owing to the war, was phenomenal, and the shipments of oil both to India and to other countries evidenced the expansion of the industry.

Inland trade.

34. Inland trade, except that with Karenni and Southern Siam, continued to expand, though it is noticeable that the imports fail to keep pace with the exports, especially in the trade with China, which has little to offer, except forbidden opium, for the goods which are sent over the border. The Northern Shan States paid

for imported cotton with tea. In the Southern States improved registration indicated remarkable prosperity. The project for the construction of a Railway to these States has been warmly supported. There is every reason to believe that such a Railway will be useful and remunerative. The decline of the teak industry and the replacement of imported by Kheddah elephants affected the trade with Siam and Karenni.

Public Works.

35. The year was one of great activity in the Public Works Department, involving an expenditure of a crore and a quarter of rupees. Among the more important items of construction were the demarcation of the Burma-China boundary and the provision of houses and offices at Maymyo, and of accommodation in Lower Burma for the courts to be established under the new Judicial scheme. New jails at Mogôk and Moulmein, new barracks for the Military police at Pyapôn and in the Southern Shan States, block-houses on the North-Eastern Frontier, and stations and quarters for the Civil Police in many places were completed or under construction. The scheme for the construction of a new General Hospital was sanctioned and work commenced, and the designs and estimates for the Chief Court were completed. The additional wings of the Public Offices in Rangoon were approaching completion by the end of the year. Communications were improved by the addition of 304 miles of roads to the mileage already supervised by the Department. The Siamese Frontier was tapped in two places, while the Chinese Frontier road was carried over the border and continued for 26 miles in Chinese territory. Some of the main roads of the province were considerably improved, and road-making was actively pushed forward in the Shan States and Chin Hills. Several important bridges, notably those over the Myitnge at Hsipaw and over the Sittang on the road to Thandaung, were projected, begun or completed. A considerable number of quarters were constructed for subordinates and clerks, several bazaars and hospitals in the mofussil built or extended and the construction of four important schools was completed or advanced. The Department also met the increased requirements of the Postal and Telegraph services and carried out the construction of a museum at Pagan.

Railways.

36. Only a small extension was made to the open line, but two important projects—the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin railways—were sanctioned and commenced. The gross earnings of the railway system increased by Rs. 11,07,116 and the working expenses by only Rs. 3,40,105, the net earnings increasing by Rs. 7,67,011, which represented 4·30 per cent. of the capital outlay. Three lives were lost in accidents. Large additions were made to the rolling stock and the open line was partially relaid and duplicated.

Tramways.

37. The electric tramway in Mandalay proved very popular and successful, and electric power is to be applied to the tramway system in Rangoon. The steam line from Thatôn to Duyinzeik shewed increased receipts, and a similar line is projected to run from Mandalay to Madaya.

Irrigation.

38. Good progress was made with the construction of the Shwebo, Ye-u and Môn canals, which, with the completed Mandalay canal, absorbed a capital expenditure of over 12 lakhs of rupees, while canals and embankments together

protected 40,000 acres more than in the previous year. The assessment of water-rate to the credit of the Mandalay canal more than doubled. On the Shwebo system 75 miles of the main and branch canals and 87 miles of distributaries were completed, and the head works of the new Ye-u canal were well advanced. Ground was broken on the Môn project. The remodelling of the distributaries on the smaller systems was well advanced and extensive repairs were undertaken. The incursions of the Sittang necessitated the abandonment of the proposed new lock at Minywa on the Pegu-Sittang canal. River navigation was facilitated by the removal of obstacles and the widening of channels.

Gross Revenues.

39. The gross revenues of the province amounted to Rs. 10,82,40,114 and the expenditure to Rs. 6,83,41,594. Both exceeded the figures of the previous year, the former by Rs. 48,29,224 and the latter by Rs. 1,52,012. The share of the net revenue credited to Imperial funds was Rs. 4,14,28,605, but the expenditure from Provincial funds exceeded the receipts by nearly 16 lakhs, mainly owing to heavy expenditure on irrigation and other public works.

Land Revenue.

40. The area under assessment increased by about 440,000 acres, and the land revenue of the province, which had been Rs. 2,15,08,765 in the previous year, rose to Rs. 2,29,82,704. The introduction of a summary settlement and the adoption of acre rates in the Chindwin districts supplemented the effect of a generally favourable season in Upper Burma, while in the delta extensions were considerable in spite of an exceptionally unfavourable season, and a large number of grant-holders came on the rolls on the expiry of their terms of exemption. The revenue demand responded to the introduction of enhanced rates in three districts in Lower Burma, the assessment of full rates in the Mandalay canal tract and the extension of survey in Katha. Remissions of revenue were heavy on account of floods in the Lower Province. The demand of capitation-tax was nearly Rs. 1,20,000 more than in the previous year and indicated both an increase of population and more careful assessment. More than 20,000 households were added to the *thathameda* assessment rolls and two and a half lakhs to the demand, as a result of the attractions of a favourable season for a usually migratory population. An increase of over Rs. 70,000 in the demand of fishery revenue was shared in the proportion of nine to one by leased fisheries and net license fees. The latter was the result of improved supervision, but the fishing season was not a good one and reckless bidding for leases at auction was not justified by results. Royalties on the extraction of petroleum produced four lakhs more than in the previous year, and there was a considerable recovery in the revenue from the Ruby Mines.

Customs.

41. Customs receipts produced a revenue more than 15$\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs in excess of the previous year. The export trade in rice recovered, and the importation of cotton goods was very heavy.

Opium.

42. The extension to the Upper Province of the Lower Burma system of vend of opium, with the consequent increase of establishments, was the main factor in the growth of excise charges, which amounted to Rs. 16,46,552, or more than three and a half lakhs in excess of the previous year. The abolition of the auction system resulted in a decrease of a lakh of rupees in the receipts from

license fees, but the duty on excise and foreign opium realized Rs. 50,11,715 or an increase of Rs. 7,19,328, of which six and a quarter lakhs were the result of the larger issues of opium in Lower Burma. Restrictions were placed on the amount to be sold to individual purchasers, with a view to the suppression of hawkers, and the increase of consumption was coincident with the exercise of considerable activity on the part of the excise staff towards the abolition of opium dens. The growth of the cocaine habit led to the issue of a notification subjecting the drug to the provisions of the excise law.

Salt. 43. Collections on account of salt excise revenue aggregated Rs. 2,73,140 as against Rs. 2,67,610 in 1903. The output of local salt declined considerably owing to the reluctance of the people to work under the new system of assessment on outturn, and the low prices obtainable. The duty levied on foreign salt increased by nearly three-quarters of a lakh. Aden successfully competed with England and Germany, which had shared the market for a year.

Excise. 44. The estimated increase in the receipts from license fees and duty on liquor was two and three-quarter lakhs, in spite of a considerable reduction in the number of licensed shops. There were remarkable increases of 72 per cent. in the excise revenue on account of country spirits and of nearly three lakhs on account of country fermented liquor, and, though the number of *tari* shops was reduced by 110, the sale of licenses produced half a lakh more than in the previous year. Licenses for the sale of imported liquors realised Rs. 12,05,234, an increase of Rs. 57,000, but the output from the European distilleries declined, owing chiefly to the competition of country made liquor.

Stamps. 45. A central depôt for the supply of stamps to Burma and the Andamans was established at Rangoon, but the increase of expenditure was trifling as compared with the general growth of the stamp revenue from Rs. 29,41,940 to Rs. 33,12,820. Fifty-six per cent. of the increase was attributable to the effect of prosperity on litigation, while speculation in land and commercial activity in the chief town and the extension of cultivation elsewhere enhanced the demand for non-judicial stamps.

Assessed taxes. 46. The operation of the Income-Tax Act was slightly extended and nearly nine hundred more persons were assessed, with a resultant demand of one and three-quarter lakhs in excess of the previous year. The total collections increased from Rs. 11,86,971 to Rs. 13,67,105. Nearly half a lakh of the increase represented the expansion of petty trade in Rangoon, and the money lenders of the district were more closely assessed. The commercial depression of Mandalay was slightly less marked than in the previous year.

Forests. 47. The receipts of the Forest Department showed an increase of more than 24 lakhs of rupees, while the expenditure was only slightly in excess of that of 1903-04. An outbreak of anthrax in the Rangoon Depôt necessitated the early sale of departmentally extracted teak at local centres which would otherwise have been disposed of after the close of the year, and the lessees in the Southern circle extended their operations.

48. The most considerable increase in purely provincial revenues was the result of the sale of elephants by the Kheddah department. Larger expenditure was incurred under several heads, especially police (Rs. 4,85,000), Education Rs. (2,02,000), Law and Justice—Courts of Law (Rs. 1,80,000) and Medical (Rs. 1,00,000), while Jails, Kheddahs and Embankments were maintained at a smaller cost than in the previous year. Provincial Revenues.

49. The income and expenditure of Incorporated Local Funds were Rs. 28,03,558 and Rs. 27,83,173, respectively, the increase of the latter (Rs. 1,70,942) being proportionately twice as heavy as that of the former. The income of the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma expanded with the growth of land revenue, and the fees from slaughter-houses and ferries were generally more considerable. The expenditure on public works increased with the growth of revenue. Local Funds.

The total income of the various Excluded Local funds was Rs. 38,23,131, and their expenditure Rs. 32,04,372. Cantonment funds were aided considerably by Government contributions. The Land Sale and Rent fund at Akyab and the College fund of the Educational Syndicate were closed.

50. Excluding Rangoon and Moulmein, Municipal receipts amounted to Rs. 28,49,260 and expenditure to Rs. 31,33,252. The aggregate indebtedness of Municipalities was Rs. 1,27,07,804, of which Rs. 1,24,24,500 represented the public loans of Rangoon, Moulmein and Mandalay. Municipal Revenues.

51. The birth-rate fell to 32·71 per 1,000 during the year. The marked variations in the rate for both rural and urban circles show that registration is still carried out in a defective manner. The climatic conditions of the year were healthy, and the death-rate fell from 24·13 per 1,000 to 22·36 in the Lower Province, and from 21·80 to 18·69 per 1,000 in Upper Burma. As usual, malarial fevers contributed the largest number of deaths, and the efforts made to increase the popularity of quinine make little progress. The country was unusually free from cholera and small-pox. A very large proportion of the deaths occurred amongst young children. Plague did not obtain a footing in the province till after the close of the year. Births and deaths.

52. The emigration of 125,215 persons left a balance of over 50,000 to swell the population of the province. Most of them are of the coolie or cultivator class, but railway construction attracts a few labourers from Northern India. Emigration and Immigration.

53. There was a large increase in the number of in-patients and out-patients treated in the various hospitals of the province. The ratio of attendance to population, which is still only 11·33 per cent. will, it is hoped, be improved with the provision of more hospitals and the establishment of the proposed medical school in Burma. The total number of hospitals supported or aided by Government for the public is now 145. Twelve new institutions were opened during the year, and the new General Hospital at Rangoon has been commenced. The increase in receipts and expenditure was about equal, Rs. 64,000. There was a larger attendance at police, railway, and private hospitals than in the previous year. The affairs of Medical relief.

the Dufferin Hospital for women in Rangoon have been placed on a satisfactory basis and the out-look is more promising. There was a decline of 43 in the number of in-patients during the year.

Sanitation and Vaccination.

54. Rather more than half of the total municipal income of the province was expended on sanitary works, and several large schemes of water-supply, drainage and conservancy have been undertaken. The Rangoon and Moulmein water-works have been completed and those at Prome renewed. Sanitation in the smaller towns and villages is backward. The contemplated reorganisation of the inspecting staff will, it is hoped, improve both the efficiency of vaccinators and the accuracy of their returns. Both the number (397,411) and the success (84·71 per cent.) of their operations show a falling off from the previous year. They were, however, handicapped by a partial failure of the lymph supply during the hot weather. The expenditure on vaccination was just over a lakh of rupees and the cost of each successful case five annas two pies.

Education.

55. The expenditure on education from all sources was about three lakhs in excess of the previous year. A considerable portion of the expenditure was met from the special grant made by the Government of India towards the fulfilment of the policy enunciated by the Simla Conference of 1901, and further measures for its realisation have been sanctioned. The staff of the Educational Department was reorganized at considerable expense and further facilities were afforded to teachers to acquire sound methods of instruction. The establishment of twelve primary schools under Government control has been sanctioned, and Government Anglo-Vernacular schools have been opened at three centres. Normal schools were opened in Rangoon and Akyab, and those at Moulmein, Toungoo and Mandalay were reorganised. The opening of a Government Primary school at Falam in the Chin Hills was successful and assistance is to be afforded in the Shan States. Compared with the previous year the number of schools increased by 4 per cent. and the attendance by 7 per cent., and the efficiency of the system of education as measured by the results of the departmental examinations was in most cases maintained and in many improved. The advance of secondary vernacular education was noteworthy, and both the attendance and the application of female pupils were good. The sanctioned scheme includes six primary schools for girls. Technical education was backward, but the reorganisation of the Government Engineering school is expected to effect an improvement. The poor attendance at colleges and the frequent failures at the University examinations were also unsatisfactory features of the year, and a committee has been appointed to investigate the cause of the defects. The Rangoon College was removed from the control of the Educational Syndicate and came under the direct control of Government. It has been decided to open a hill school for Europeans and Eurasians at Maymyo. The attendance at survey schools was lower than in the previous year, but it is thought that the cause was only temporary. Some success was attained in technical education at the Reformatory School at Insein.

Literature and the Press.

56. The year was distinguished by the issue of the first novel in Burmese. Other publications were mainly religious or educational. A considerable number of vernacular newspapers obtained circulation, and included issues in Tamil, Gujerati and Chinese.

57. The annual provincial competition included for the first time an exhibition of paintings and photographs, and was of special interest. The exhibits of handicrafts attained, as usual, a high degree of excellence. Arts and Sciences.

58. The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act was passed during the year, and lists of monuments and buildings to which its provisions may be applied were ordered to be prepared. The dismantlement and reconstruction of the spire of the Mandalay palace was begun, and a number of inspections of ancient buildings were carried out by the Government Archæologist, who also made some interesting discoveries at the old city of Halingyi in the Shwebo district. The cost of the Department was Rs. 19,534. Archæology.

59. The Cathedral at Rangoon was consecrated in January 1905. The location of the proposed church, in memory of those who fell during the war in Upper Burma, was changed to Maymyo in view of the number of British troops to be stationed in that cantonment. Ecclesiastical.

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PART II.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Report on the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Season and Crop Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

Information on these subjects is contained in paragraphs 1—8 of the Report for the year 1901-02. It is not repeated here.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

2. A brief account of the principal events in the history of the Province is to be found in paragraphs 9—19 of the Report for 1901-02.

Form of Administration.

3. The general form of administration remains as it was in 1901-02, and is described in paragraphs 20—38 of the Report of that year. At the end of paragraph 28 certain changes in the direction of the separation of the Judicial and Executive services were foreshadowed. From the 1st March 1905 practical effect was given to these long-considered proposals by the formation of a Superior Judicial Service, consisting of five Divisional and eight District Judges, and this was followed a month later by the institution of the Township Judicial Service, the strength of which was 36. The former was framed on the model of the Punjab system, the Divisional Judges being the Sessions Judges of their Divisions and District Judges confining themselves mainly to the exercise of civil jurisdiction. The scheme included the most populous districts of Lower Burma, and did not extend to Kyaukpyu, Sandoway, Salween, Tavoy, Mergui or Thayetmyo, where the Deputy Commissioner continues to perform *ex-officio* the duties of District Judge, to Rangoon, where the Chief Court takes the place of the District Court, or to the Arakan Hill Tracts, which are under a special law. In the remaining 13 districts of Lower Burma the Deputy Commissioner ceased to have any concern with civil justice. In four cases two, and in one case three, districts have been grouped under one District Judge, who spends part of his time in each. Besides their civil jurisdiction, District Judges were invested with powers under sections 30 and 34 of the Criminal Procedure Code in order that they might partially relieve Deputy Commissioners of the burden of criminal work, and they were also empowered to hear criminal appeals from 2nd and 3rd class Magistrates. Two of the appointments of District Judge are open to members of the Provincial Civil Service.

Similarly, by the appointment of Divisional Judges the Commissioners of the Pegu, Tenasserim and Irrawaddy Divisions were relieved of all judicial work, criminal and civil, and the Commissioner of the Minbu Division received similar relief in respect of Thayetmyo district; but in the Arakan division the Commissioner continues to be Divisional and Sessions Judge for his division. The districts in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Sessions divisions, with the addition of Thayetmyo, were distributed among four Divisional and Sessions Judges. Though the Rangoon Town District is in the Hanthawaddy Sessions Division, the Sessions cases and criminal regular appeals belonging to it are tried by the Chief Court, and it is not

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

in the Hanthawaddy civil division. The old appointments of Additional Sessions Judges in those divisions, together with that of District Judge of Amherst and the cognate post of Additional District Judge of Mandalay, were absorbed into the new service.

By the constitution of the Township Judicial service 36 appointments were removed from the Subordinate and Provincial Executive Services and formed into a separate cadre of four grades on pay ranging from Rs. 400 to Rs. 200 a month. The scheme only extended to Lower Burma and, apart from the question of remuneration, was the natural outcome of the progressive addition to all kinds of public business, which had for some years necessitated the employment of an increasing number of officers on purely judicial work.

Character of Land Tenures: System of Survey and Settlements.

4. These are described in the Report for 1901-02, paragraphs 39—55.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

5. The civil divisions of the Province, as they existed in 1901-02, are described in paragraphs 56—67 of the Report of that year. Administrative convenience has since dictated various alterations. In the year under report the changes effected were of minor importance. In the Kyaukpyu district a new subdivision was constituted without addition to the number of townships. Certain small areas were transferred from the Upper Chindwin to Myitkyina, from Pyapôn to Myaungmya, and from Myingyan to Pakôkku. Inter-township boundaries were modified in the Shwebo, Sagaing and Pegu districts. The headquarters of the Kyaukyit township in Sagaing district, of Pasôk township in Pakôkku, and of Oktwin township in Toungoo, were moved to Myaung, Saw and Pyu, respectively, and in the last named case the township was subsequently divided into two, Oktwin being reconstituted a headquarters. It was finally decided to transfer the headquarters of the Minbu Division to Magwe, but pending the erection of the necessary buildings the decision has not yet been carried into effect.

Details of the last Census: Tribes and Languages.

6. Information on these subjects will be found in paragraphs 68—75 of the Report for 1901-02.

Changes in the Administration.

7. THE HON'BLE SIR H. S. BARNES, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., I.C.S., held charge of the administration throughout the year under report.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

Southern Shan States.

8. Peace on the frontier and internal progress were the main features of the year's administration in the Southern Shan States. Law and order having been established in Northern Siam, the troubles which threatened the Kēngtūng border were averted, while the chaotic condition of Kênghung politics had no actual effect on the tranquillity of the cis-Mekong States. The resentment aroused amongst a portion of the inhabitants of the Yawnghwe State by the introduction of fiscal innovations was allayed by the withdrawal of the obnoxious measures; steps were taken to remodel the revenue system of the State, and a potential cause of unrest and intrigue was removed by the Lieutenant-Governor's announcement in Durbar that the *Sawbwa's* authority would not be curtailed by the revival of a local Chieftainship. Enquiry having shown that the presence of an Adviser was distasteful to the *Sawbwa*, and mistrusted by the people, the appointment, which had only been in existence for two years, was abolished. Proof of the material progress and prosperity of the people was afforded by the successful cattle show and exhibition of arts and crafts which followed the Durbar held by the Lieutenant-Governor in March. The quality and number of the exhibits, both agricultural and industrial, lent strength to the anticipation that the construction of the projected railway from Thazi in Burma will be financially justified. Rubber of a high quality was shown from Kēngtūng and elicited expert commendation.

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

The process of displacement of the military garrison of the States by Military Police was completed during the year, a small portion of the new battalion being locally enlisted Shans. Crime was not heavy and was moderately well dealt with by the regular Government Police, by the paid force employed in the Yawnghwe State and by the large irregular staff which is employed for the maintenance of order by the other chiefs. The Pwela *Myosa* successfully attacked and dispersed a dangerous gang of armed robbers, led by an outlaw, who was killed. Civil litigation increased in Taunggyi in sympathy with the growth of an alien population. Elsewhere the bulk of such disputes continue to be settled out of court.

In spite of local calamities the rice crops were up to the average and in Kĕngtūng abnormally good. Dry crops gave excellent returns, and it is hoped that the introduction of a better quality of seed will improve the outturn and staple of cotton. The reservation of forests has been commenced. Nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet of teak were exported into Burma during the year, but the efforts of the Chiefs to work their own forests, otherwise than for local consumption, have to a great extent proved a failure. In other cases they participate in the profits. Improved methods of registration showed that the volume of trade between the States and Burma was much larger than that previously recorded, the aggregate value of exports and imports giving an apparent increase of 28 lakhs of rupees. The successful competition of Kĕngtūng silk with the famous Chinese product, and the introduction of grass mats on the model of the Indian matting observed by the Chiefs who attended the Delhi Durbar, give satisfactory evidence that local industry has the merit of adaptability.

The Chiefs have shown praiseworthy energy in the construction of roads and bridges, and it has become necessary to restrain their zeal within the limit imposed by their resources by the preparation of a programme which will provide adequately for the maintenance of roads already existing.

The development of the postal system received a check owing to the abuse of the privileges of the parcel post by Kĕngtūng tradesmen, which led to its displacement by a contract system. The practice was but a symptom of the progressive concentration of trade in the hands of natives of India and the consequent drain of money from the States. It remains to be seen whether the Shan is capable by nature of taking full advantage of the facilities which the projected railway will afford for the disposal of his produce and of recovering lost ground. The revenue demand in the various States showed an increase of slightly over Rs. 7,000, and there were no outstandings at the close of the year. The principles of the revenue system were briefly codified during the year with the object of securing uniformity in the preparation of budgets and the collection of taxes. The Government tribute was paid with commendable punctuality. Only in the Myelat was it found necessary to remit a portion of the tribute. The States were happily free from epidemics, but the hospitals were well attended. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Chiefs admirably fulfils the object with which it was founded, and it has been decided to depute an officer of the Education Department to encourage the growth and systematise the methods of the elementary education afforded by the monasteries.

Karenni remained at peace, but elements of discord were engendered by the mutual jealousies of the Chiefs and embittered by religious animosities.

Northern Shan States.

9. An abortive rising by a religious fanatic on the border was the only incident which threatened the peace of the Northern Shan States during the year. It was suppressed by the Military Police, the ringleader and twenty-two of his followers being killed. The annual meeting with Chinese officials for the settlement of border cases was successfully carried out, but the claims against Chefang went by default in the absence of Chinese Representatives. With the help of His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Têngyüeh a meeting was arranged for the adjustment of claims against the State of Mêng Ting, and existing cases were disposed of, but it is to be feared that until the method of administration of this turbulent State is improved and the authority of the *Sawbwa* supported by an adequate force, this portion of the border will remain a source of friction.

There was a considerable increase in the number of crimes among the

I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

alien population along the railway line, but the small force of Government Police was reasonably successful in dealing with it. The efficiency of the Hsipaw State Police showed signs of improvement, and in Tawngpeng the force was reorganised. Violent crimes were few and were successfully brought home to the culprits, but the escape of two men under sentence of death was a blot on the record of the year. Litigation increased, especially in Hsipaw Town, and the work of the Civil Courts showed a satisfactory improvement. Formal extradition of criminals to China was made in three cases. An abnormally heavy rainfall and a plague of rats injuriously affected the paddy crop in Hsipaw and Manglün, and the sessamum and tobacco crops were poor. The results of experimental cultivation, also, were discouraging. On the whole, however, crops were good, and tea gave excellent results. The mortality amongst cattle was severe in most of the States, the depredations of wild dogs adding to the loss inflicted by disease. A commencement was made with the protection of forests, which has become imperatively necessary. Trade returns indicate increasing prosperity, the most significant features being the progressive success of the tea industry and the gradually increasing demand for outside products. Expenditure on public works was mainly confined to the upkeep of roads and the erection of official buildings and bazaars, but the bridge over the Namtu at Hsipaw was commenced and another over the Nam Hkai river is contemplated. The general condition of the people was satisfactory, the influence of the railway on prices being reflected in the ease with which the State revenues were collected. It is observed that here also the Shans are being ousted from the most profitable lines of trade and labour. The acting Chief of Hsipaw is still heavily involved in debt, and the control of Government over his finances was maintained. A similar control has been established in Tawngpeng, from which good results are anticipated. Corruption amongst minor officials and injudicious remissions by the Chief retarded the progress of the North Hsenwi finances. An increased rate of tribute in the Kachin tracts was collected without difficulty. Municipal Government was introduced during the year in Lashio, the headquarters of the Superintendent. An interesting attempt was made by the Public Works Officer recently appointed to the supervision of State undertakings to train local pupils in the elements of road-making, and the backward cause of education is to be advanced by the appointment of an officer of that department from Burma and by the opening of a Government Vernacular Primary School at Lashio.

States under the control of Commissioners.

10. The petty States of Möng Mit, Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkamti enjoyed a prosperous and peaceful year. The harvests were excellent and the trade in forest produce more than usually lucrative. The *Sawbwas* of the Chindwin States afforded useful co-operation in the suppression of opium-smuggling. Administrative powers have not yet been conferred on the young *Sawbwa* of Möng Mit, but proposals for his installation are under consideration. Meanwhile the resources of the State are being carefully husbanded.

The Chin Hills.

11. Continued outrages committed by villages in the unadministered tracts upon the hill folk under British control, while they afforded an opportunity for a signal display of self-restraint by the latter, forced the attention of the Local Government towards a solution of the difficult problem involved in giving to peaceful traders such measure of protection in their journeys beyond the administrative border as is compatible with the established policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of these turbulent and irresponsible tribesmen. One of the raids was characterised by brutal tortures inflicted on the prisoners before they were murdered, and reprisals were narrowly averted. Events such as these serve to throw into strong relief the remarkable progress towards civilisation of the Chins within the pale. The almost total disappearance of violent crime, the ready submission of causes of quarrel to the decision of the Political Officers, the increased resort of hill men to the plains in search of work and their eager acceptance of instruction and medical assistance, afford a gratifying illustration of the results to be obtained by the sympathetic management of a naturally intractable people.

The process of disarmament was practically completed, and it is believed that the number of unstamped guns in the Hills is now very limited. Potatoes and

other vegetables and fruit were cultivated with fair success, but the experiments with wheat and oats were not encouraging. Communications were improved by the bridging of the Falam-Tyao road, and new houses are being provided for officers at Falam, where also the water-supply project is making progress. The blockade of the Piya Chins on the Upper Chindwin border, which has been enforced since 1901, was terminated by the payment of a fine and promises of amendment on the part of the Chief. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

12. The year passed without any important event in the Pakôkku Chin Hills. With the exception of a small depôt at the Assistant Superintendent's headquarters, the Military Police force was entirely replaced by Chin Police, and the Hkrum villagers, in whose submission the latter played a conspicuous part, sent in emissaries in token of adherence to their compact. A succession of bad crops has impoverished the inhabitants of the Hills, and precautions were taken against scarcity. Pakôkku Chin Hills.

13. A raid by a village in unadministered territory was promptly punished by the Deputy Commissioner of the Arakan Hill Tracts, who marched over the border, recovered the captives, and inflicted a fine on the raiders. The Deputy Commissioner of Akyab held a successful durbar at Ponthawa, and with the above exception the relations of the people on either side of the administrative border were satisfactory. Arakan Hill Tracts.

14. Tranquillity prevailed on the north-eastern frontier, where, so far as China is concerned, border disputes were satisfactorily settled in concert with Chinese officials. Relations with the unadministered territory to the north caused some uneasiness. A Chinese trader with his family and servants were murdered a few miles from Myitkyina, in satisfaction, it is supposed, of a debt which the murderers believed to be due to them. At the invitation of the Deputy Commissioner fourteen trans-frontier Chiefs visited Myitkyina, and good results are anticipated from the interchange of courtesies and the discussion of border matters. The Sadôn tract having proved unmanageably large, a new charge was formed comprising part of the Sadôn jurisdiction and bringing under the more direct supervision of the civil officers the hitherto neglected tracts immediately north of the defile. During the tours of civil officers the boundary pillars erected on the Chinese frontier were repaired, frontier roads were inspected, and guns were registered. Enquiry was instituted into the extent to which the crops had failed, and small remissions of tribute were found necessary. Crime was not serious. One of the murders committed is believed to be referable to the activity of the Excise Department. There were several large seizures of opium during the year, and it is known that this has caused resentment in the transborder tracts, where the drug is used as a medium of exchange. There was a large number of kidnapping cases, the victims being sold into slavery over the border. The output from the jade mines was nearly double that of the previous year, and would have been larger, but for the delay which occurred in commencing the workings. The jade extracted was valued at 1½ lakhs. Magisterial powers were conferred on the *Duwa* of the tract to enable him to deal with the influx of non-Kachins to the mines. The rubber industry in the Hukawng valley attracted large numbers of people, and the revenue obtained from it materially increased. The quantity of amber imported increased by over 40 per cent. The Kachin Hills.

Condition of the People.

15. The partial failure and uneven distribution of the autumn rains spoiled what had early in the season promised to be a bumper crop of rice. The grain threshed out somewhat light and the outturn was 94 per cent. of the normal. There was, however, no suspicion of scarcity, and in Lower Burma good prices for surplus paddy were maintained. Agricultural conditions in Upper Burma were on the whole more favourable. There was a further extension of the cropped area by about 600,000 acres including all crops, and there is no indication that there has been any check in the advance of the people towards a higher standard of living. An attempt is being made to assist the cultivator by the establishment of Co-operative Credit Societies. Though the system was only initiated early in 1905, some measure of success has already been obtained. Condition of the people.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Twenty-first issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1900-01 to 1904-05, Volume Tables V, V-A and B and VI, VI-A and B.

Realization of the Revenue.

Amounts recovered and outstanding.

16. The current demand of land revenue for the year was Rs. 2,33,43,843. Of this sum Rs. 2,90,414 were remitted and the outstandings at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 70,725. The actual collections (Rs. 2,29,82,704) were Rs. 14,73,939 in excess of the previous year. The increase both of remissions and outstandings was mainly due to a bad season in Lower Burma. The water-rate demand of Rs. 32,159 was all collected with the exception of a sum of Rs. 466, and the outstandings of capitation-tax, the net demand of which was Rs. 49,84,988, only amounted to Rs. 169. The collections of *thathameda* aggregated Rs. 48,63,120, and the unrealized balance, which consisted mainly of Kachin tribute, was Rs. 2,510. Out of a current demand of Rs. 29,79,529 for fishery revenue, Rs. 29,670 were remitted and Rs. 29,10,674 collected, the failure to recover the balance of Rs. 41,436 (which included arrears from the previous year) being mainly due to the poverty of the fishing season in the delta.

Coercive processes.

17. Application was made for process to compel the payment of arrears of revenue amounting to Rs. 11,15,107, of which Rs. 9,66,854 or more than 86 per cent. was realized. The losses of cultivators owing to an unfavourable season in Lower Burma necessitated the more frequent resort of headmen to coercive process with a lower percentage of recoveries, and the number of cases in which immoveable property was sold to satisfy the demands of Government increased from 921 to 1,271, but the issue of a warrant was effectual in the great majority of cases, and there was a remarkable decrease in the number of processes against the person of defaulters, the number of arrests being only 3,382, or less than half the number effected in the previous year, and of these less than two in a hundred were committed to jail.

Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to survey.

18. With the demarcation of 365 square miles in the Pauk township the preliminary work of survey in the Pakôkku district was completed, and the two demarcation officers proceeded to Thayetmyo, where an area of 911 square miles was dealt with before the close of the year. Similar work was completed by the Land Records Department in Katha district and small areas of 12 and 5 square miles were prepared for survey in the Mergui and Mandalay districts, respectively. Demarcation was completed and boundary disputes settled in the area of nine square miles by which the limits of the Rangoon Municipality have been extended, and the preliminary work for the survey of the Municipal Town of Pegu (five square miles) was carried through.

The cost of the most important operations was in Pakôkku Rs. 1,768, in Thayetmyo Rs. 2,659, in Rangoon Rs. 14,192 and in Pegu Rs. 1,026.

Survey of India.

19. No. 7 party of the Survey of India continued its operations in the Pakôkku district, where 660 square miles in the Seikpyu and Pauk townships were traversed and 605 square miles in the Myaing and Pakôkku townships cadastrally surveyed. In addition, 25 square miles of topography and 31 square miles of river blocks were executed on the 16-inch scale. Seven hundred and seventeen square miles remained to be traversed in the district. The extensions of Rangoon Town referred to in the last paragraph were surveyed on the scale of 100 feet to the inch. The estimated cost of the operations of the party was Rs. 1,92,938.

Survey by local parties.

20. The requirements of the settlement party necessitated extensive revision surveys in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn districts. A field establishment of eight Inspectors, six sub-surveyors, 65 field surveyors and seven draftsmen and computors began work on the 14th December and the cadastral resurvey of 692 square miles with a cultivated area of 273,939 acres was completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 71,397. An area of 54 square miles was also cadastrally surveyed in the Mergui district. Four-fifths of this area only required resurvey, but 10 square miles were new country and had to be traversed, the whole cost being Rs. 8,990. In the Mandalay district the revision survey for settlement was completed, the operations extending over an area of 49 square miles and costing Rs. 3,831, and a special staff was engaged to make a detailed survey of the Aungbinlè lake area (six square miles), which had been recently drained by the Public Works Department. The land was laid out in blocks and the cost of survey (Rs. 817) will be more than covered by the survey fees to be paid by intending cultivators. The survey of 24 square miles of land was revised by a special party in Katha, which was primarily engaged in the preparation of that district for settlement. In the course of the latter, 127 square miles were surveyed in detail and 103 square miles traversed in a difficult and unhealthy country at a cost of Rs. 24,272, while Rs. 3,275 were expended on an extra establishment for the preparation of maps and computation of areas for settlement purposes. A small special party surveyed 12 square miles of cultivated blocks in Tavoy outside the tract under supplementary survey, and the municipal towns of Tavoy and Pegu were mapped on a large scale at the cost of their respective Committees. Extra men were engaged on the land required for the Pegu-Moulmein Railway and special surveyors were, as usual, employed in the annual survey of the island *kwins* in the Mandalay, Sagaing and Myingyan districts. The redrawing of maps in Minbu required an extra staff, and one Inspector and four surveyors were employed in the mapping of Maymyo town and its surroundings.

Revision surveys, unconnected with settlements, but necessitated by the inability of the local staff to keep pace with the rapid changes of field boundaries and the expansion of cultivation, were undertaken in Prome and Toungoo, where 95 and 68 square miles were resurveyed at a cost of Rs. 8,402 and Rs. 8,979 respectively.

Special establishments were entertained for *potta* surveys in 15 districts. The temporary suspension of the grant system in the Pegu Division reduced the volume of this work, which employed 16 Inspectors and 119 surveyors for varying periods, besides three special grant officers. In all 9,064 cases were dealt with and 69,052 acres surveyed at a cost of Rs. 44,607, which was practically covered by fees.

Settlements.

Original Settlements.

21. The recess work of the original settlement party engaged in parts of the Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Prome districts was completed during the year and the new rates were notified from the 1st July 1905. The operations, which commenced in November 1903, involved an area of 1,490 square miles, were carried out at an average cost of four annas per cultivated acre, and will result in an enhancement of nearly 50 per cent. in the revenue demand. The party then moved to Tavoy where its work approached completion at the end of the year. In Upper Burma, the original settlements of Shwebo and Katha entered on their concluding stages, the field work being completed in both. The cost of these operations up to date is 8¼ annas and Re. 1-4-6 per cultivated acre respectively. Crop cutting and soil classification were completed in the Mandalay canal area, which has anticipated its place in the settlement programme, but a second year's work is contemplated.

Revision Settlements.

22. The recess work of the revision settlement party, which had been at work in the Myaungmya district since November 1903, was completed and the report submitted in November 1904. The report, after examination by a Conference, received the orders of Government, and the sanctioned rates, which were notified from the 1st July 1905, represent an enhancement of Rs. 1,18,028 or 37·36 in the revenue demand over an area of 645 square miles.

II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

The same party proceeded to the revision settlement of the Pantanaw, Danubyu and Yandoon townships of the Ma-ubin district and, in spite of delays in the preliminary survey, had approached the completion of its labours at the close of the year. The Revision Settlement Report of Kyauksè awaits the orders of Government. The settlement effected in the Mandalay district in 1892-93 had been under revision since the end of 1903. The field and recess work were satisfactorily completed during the year and the report was examined by the prescribed conference. The inception of operations in Minbu, which should have been undertaken by this party, was delayed by the decision to push forward the settlement of the Mandalay canal tract, but preliminary enquiries and crop cuttings were commenced by a detachment under an Assistant Settlement Officer. The cost per cultivated acre of the completed settlements of Myaungmya, Ma-ubin, Kyauksè and Mandalay was $3\frac{3}{4}$, $2\frac{3}{4}$, 4 and 5 annas respectively.

Summary settlements.

23. In October 1904 was commenced the summary settlement of an area of 76 square miles in the Kyaukpyu district which had been surveyed in the preceding season. The work was completed in August 1905 in spite of the difficult nature of the country. A similar settlement of the Samôn Valley tract, Meiktila district, was also completed during the year, and the report submitted to Government.

The area dealt with on summary settlement was 135 square miles and the total cost Rs. 10,941.

Land Records.

Area under supplementary survey.

24. The completion of summary settlements in the Upper and Lower Chindwin was mainly responsible for an increase of 918 square miles in the area under supplementary survey, which amounted to 42,837 square miles, with an assessment of Rs. 2,39,77,857. In the accretions of the Sittang in the Pegu district 17 square miles had been actually under supplementary survey for some years, though omitted from the returns, and local surveys and verification of areas added 31 square miles in Myaungmya and Katha. The increase of revenue, which amounted to over $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, was the result of the introduction or revision of settlement rates in Akyab, Pyapôn, Myaungmya and the Chindwin districts, the assessment of time-expired *pottas* and the general extension of cultivation. The assessment was largely reduced in the Thatôn and Amherst districts by remissions on account of floods.

The cost of supervision was Rs. 3,81,298 and of the survey staff Rs. 6,38,042. The total cost, which was Rs. 26,866 in excess of the previous year, represents an expenditure of Rs. 23·80 per square mile and 4·25 per cent. of the assessment as against Rs. 23·68 and 4·26 in 1903-04. The cost was enhanced by the appointment of additional Inspectors and surveyors in Lower Burma, the extension of operations in the Lower Chindwin and the formation of a separate staff at Pyapôn.

Survey Schools.

25. As in the previous year, 18 survey schools were maintained by Government. The number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March declined from 455 to 414, of whom 33 per cent. were exempted from the payment of fees. The falling off in the number of pupils was due to the introduction of the fourth standard as a minimum qualification for admission. This order has since been withdrawn. The gross cost of the schools was Rs. 39,538 of which Rs. 14,499 were paid in scholarships. The income from fees and other sources was Rs. 5,627 and the net cost per head Rs. 84. A large number of certificated men passed into employment during the year.

Transfers of land.

26. The area of land sold during the year was 539,565 acres, or 14,648 acres less than in the previous year, and the average price realized rôse from Rs. 34 to Rs. 38 per acre. Circumstances varied in different districts, but in Amherst a decrease of over 7,000 acres is ascribed to the tightness of the money market, the money lenders having suffered by the heavy floods, and in Mandalay, where the canal has enhanced the value of land, cultivators were reluctant to alienate it permanently. Speculation followed the establishment of the new district of Pyapôn, where the area sold increased by 5,641 acres and the average price by 30 per cent., and in Thatôn the advent of the railway forced the price of land up to Rs. 86 per acre,

at which point the boom collapsed. The losses caused by cattle disease increased the alienation of land in some districts and the rate of interest was so high that cultivators in some cases preferred to sell outright, but for the most part these transactions took the form of mortgages, and the area of land so encumbered at the end of the year had increased by over a lakh of acres to 1,012,395 acres, Tharrawaddy showing an increase of 7,790 acres, Bassein 16,424 acres and Pyapôn 19,194 acres. In Myaungmya the increase of 22,089 acres included many old transactions newly recorded, and better registration produced an apparent increase in other districts. Floods in the one case and the failure of the rains in the other increased the number of mortgages in Amherst and Yamèthin, while in Pegu the abolition of the grant system reduced it by withholding a title, the premature transfer of which, though forbidden by law, had been freely effected. II.—Administration of the Land.

Waste Lands.

27. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year was 87,676 acres or 23,100 less than in the previous year. The falling off is partly due to the temporary suspension of the system in the Pegu Division, but intending cultivators were discouraged by floods in Amherst, and in Toungoo, Thatôn and Akyab fewer fresh applications were made, the Revenue officers being engaged in the disposal of old cases, with which good progress was made. In the new district of Pyapôn there was an increase of nearly 4,500 acres, nearly 1,500 acres being granted to headmen as an appanage of their office. In the Pegu Division only cases in which a survey had been made were disposed of, the survey fees being returned in other cases. In Hanthawaddy the demand for culturable land was successfully dealt with by allotment without title, but special arrangements became necessary for the disposal of land in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, which commands a high value. Except in the canal areas of Mandalay and Shwebo there was a general decrease in the leased area in Upper Burma, cultivators being encouraged to take up waste land without recourse to the Revenue Offices. Leases were granted for 2,623 acres in Mandalay district, and in Shwebo, though the canal is not completed, competition for the land which it will command brought a steady flow of applications. Grants and leases for cultivation.

28. Seven hundred and seventy-nine acres were granted, revenue free, for either religious or public purposes as against 207 in the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the inclusion of *thugyisa* grants in Upper Burma which had hitherto been excluded. Revenue free grants.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

29. There are no such estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

30. The area occupied by agriculturists rose from 10,601,041 to 10,975,695 acres. Non-agriculturists occupied 1,795,459 acres as against 1,669,047 acres, but a smaller proportion of this area (61 per cent. as against 63 per cent.) was in the hands of non-residents. In Pyapôn and Toungoo the growing value of land attracted numbers of capitalists, but in Myaungmya the greater part of the extensions of cultivation were in the hands of *bonâ fide* agriculturists. The partial failure of crops in Thatôn in the previous year induced a large number of non-resident landlords to part with their land, but few of the local purchasers were actual cultivators. Land holders.

31. The area held by rent-paying tenants increased from 2,204,603 to 2,226,630 acres and the average rent from Rs. 8·45 to Rs. 9·78. Of the total number of tenants, (171,559), 13·3 per cent. had rented their land continuously for five years or more. There was an influx of Chittagonian tenants into Akyab and of Natives of India into Ma-ubin, and in Pyapôn 35 per cent. of the total occupied area was held by tenants. Rents were raised in Amherst by the good harvest of the previous year, which was not repeated, in Mandalay by the development of the irrigation system and in Prome by the competition amongst tenants. Tenants.

III.—PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1904.
Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1904.
Report on the working of the Registration Department in Burma for the three years ended the 31st December 1904.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Report on Government steamers, vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1904-05.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign countries in the year ending the 31st March 1905 and the four preceding years, Volume II, Tables 1, 2, 8, 9, 12 and 13.
Thirty-ninth issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India in the year ending the 31st March 1905, Tables 2 to 7.
Report of the Commissioners of the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1905.
Tenth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Legislating Authority.

32. The constitution of the legislating authority of the province is described in paragraphs 106—109 of the Report for 1901-02.

Course of Legislation.

Acts passed.

33. The three Bills described in paragraphs 25—27 of the Report for 1903-04 became law during the year as Burma Acts I, II and III of 1904. Several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government and four, the provisions of which are summarized below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council in December 1904.

Amendment of the Burma Gambling Act.

34. The object of Burma Act I of 1905 was to introduce a wider wording in section 6, sub-section (4) of the Burma Gambling Act, 1899, so as to permit the reports of the proceedings of Police officers under section 6 to be sent to any Magistrate who has jurisdiction to take cognizance of any offence which may appear to have been committed, and to leave the question of jurisdiction dependent solely on the construction of the Criminal Procedure Code adopted by the High Courts. The opportunity was also taken to extend the power of the arresting police officer to release accused persons on bail or on their own recognizances to cases in which it is practicable to send the accused before a Magistrate within three hours of the arrest, and to make the acceptance of sufficient bail obligatory in cases in which he does not produce them before a Magistrate within that period. Section 8 of the Act was also amended so as to extend the powers conferred by that section to the case of all persons accused of any offence under the Act. Section 9 was amended so as to apply to the case of a person who has been examined as a witness otherwise than under the provisions of section 8.

Owing to the prevalence of gambling in Rangoon town, the lucrative nature of the business and the reluctance of Magistrates to pass sentence of imprisonment for first offences, the scale of fines was enhanced from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 for a first offence, and from Rs. 400 to Rs. 1,000 for a subsequent offence.

The Burma Canal Act.

35. The object of the Burma Canal Act is to provide for the regulation of irrigation and navigation canals and drainage works in Burma. The construction of the Mandalay Canal from Imperial funds and the still more important project of the Shwebo Canal formed, for this province, a new departure, which rendered legislation necessary for the purpose of regulating the construction and management of canals similar in class to the large State canals of Northern India. Sec-

tions 34 to 36 of the Upper Burma Land Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889), were primarily intended to apply to the numerous tanks, canals, navigation channels and other minor irrigation works constructed in Burmese times; but the powers conferred by those sections were found insufficient and unsuitable for regulating the construction and management of large State canals. The Pegu and Sittang Canal Act, 1881 (II of 1881) which was a reproduction of the provisions of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, regulated the navigation of a particular canal and could not be extended to any other existing or contemplated work. III.—PROTECTION.

To make the new measure a comprehensive enactment dealing with both irrigation and navigation canals throughout the province, the Pegu and Sittang Canal Act, 1881, and sections 34 to 36 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889, were repealed. The navigation of canals is regulated by Chapter VII of the Act, the construction, management and upkeep of minor canals by Chapter VI. As the general provisions regulating the larger State canals are unsuitable in the case of minor canals, the application of the rest of the Act to these works is barred; but power is conferred by the Act to apply such of those provisions as are considered suitable either generally or specially and in a general or modified form.

Chapter IX of the Act contains provisions respecting the supply of labour. Under the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873, the duty of supplying labour is imposed on the proprietors of land, but, having regard to the conditions prevailing in Burma, this duty is imposed by the local Act on the villages concerned and in emergencies labour is impressed through the village headman in accordance with the existing practice under the village enactments.

The main provisions of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, 1873 (VII of 1873), in respect of the construction and maintenance of canals, of the supply of water, of water-rates, of the jurisdiction of Civil Courts, and of offences and penalties have, with such modification as were necessitated by local conditions, been adopted in the Act.

36. The Burma Fisheries Act, 1905 (Burma Act, III of 1905), is a measure to regulate the rights of Government over fisheries in the Province. Although the Act in the first instance only applies to Lower Burma, power is conferred on the Local Government for its extension by notification to any part of Upper Burma. The rights were in Lower Burma previously regulated under the Burma Fisheries Act, 1875 (VII of 1875). Until the present Act is extended by notification, the rights of Government over fisheries in Upper Burma continue to be regulated under sections 32 and 33 of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889 (III of 1889). The investigation held under the orders of the Local Government shewed that the supply of fish in many of the best fishery tracts in the Irrawaddy Delta and consequently the quantity of the capture had largely decreased and was continuing to decrease owing to the reckless depletion of fisheries and the want of conservation. Further regulation was found necessary to prevent the one and provide for the other. The Act provides for the creation of reserved fisheries in which fishing operations may, by bye-law, be entirely prohibited or permitted to a limited extent. Provision is made for the notification of close seasons for certain species of fish. The prohibition of the poisoning and stupefaction of fish has been made more stringent. Power is taken in respect of leasable fisheries for the issue of licenses or leases of rights to fish which are not inconsistent with or in derogation of the leases of the exclusive right to certain kinds or modes of fishing. Provision is made for the appointment of special fishery officers, on whom special powers are conferred for the prevention and detection of fishing offences and for the arrest of offenders. A procedure similar to that under Act XII of 1884 for loans to agriculturists has been provided for the advance of money on proper security to fishermen. **The Burma Fisheries Act.**

37. The object of the Rangoon Port Act, 1905 (Burma Act, IV of 1905) is to provide for the better management of the affairs of the Port of Rangoon. The administration of the Port was previously regulated by the Rangoon Port **The Rangoon Port Act.**

III.—PROTECTION. Commissioners Act, 1879 (XV of 1879), which came into force on the 1st January 1880. The earlier measure was in itsnature somewhat experimental, and under it the widest powers of control were vested in the Local Government. The constantly recurring necessity of reference hampered and delayed the action of the Commissioners in the development of a Port, the importance of which had outgrown its equipment. Amongst the improvements which were suggested by the growing needs of the Harbour were (1) the increase of wharf and godown accommodation, (2) the provision of hydraulic machinery on wharves and in warehouses, (3) more efficient lighting, (4) the training of the river and (5) the provision of a dry dock. The Rangoon Port Act, 1905, while vesting powers of control in the Local Government gives the Commissioners less restricted powers for the execution of these works. Under the Act of 1879 the Acts and proceedings of the Commissioners were subject to the approval of the Local Government. For the minute supervision exercised by Government under the earlier Act, the Rangoon Port Act, 1905, substitutes a system of annual estimates, the sanction of which by the Local Government will include sanction to the works included therein. The works being sanctioned the Commissioners will have a comparatively free hand in carrying them out. Power is conferred on the Chairman to carry out new works, up to a cost of one thousand rupees each, if they are provided for in a budget sanctioned under the provisions of Chapter VII, and to execute repairs provided for in the budget subject to such rules as the Commissioners may prescribe in regard to the preparation and sanction of detailed estimates therefor. The Commissioners may, under the Act, sanction the estimate of any work provided for in a sanctioned budget if the estimated cost does not exceed Rs. 50,000, but if the cost of a work exceeds Rs. 50,000, the plans have to be submitted to and approved by the Local Government; and, if the cost of a work exceeds two lakhs, the plan and estimate have to be approved by the Governor-General in Council.

To meet the expenditure necessary for the various improvements required by the Port, power is conferred upon the Commissioners, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, to impose a River due not exceeding four annas and not less than one anna for each ton of goods, and subject to those limits to vary the rate at any time.

Section 34 of the Act confers borrowing powers upon the Commissioners. The conditions under which they may borrow and the provisions for the repayment of loans and for the establishment of sinking funds are contained in Chapter VI of the Act. Provision is made by section 7 of the Act for the representation on the body of Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon of four members elected by the Chamber of Commerce and of one member elected by the Rangoon Trades Association.

General Acts affecting Burma.

38. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year:—

I.—An Act to provide for the regulation of the possession and sale of all poisons in certain local areas, and the importation, possession and sale of white arsenic generally. (The Poisons Act, 1904.)

III.—An Act to make further provision regarding the borrowing powers of certain local authorities. (The Local Authorities Loan Act, 1904.)

V.—An Act to amend the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1889. [The Indian Official Secrets (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

VI.—An Act further to amend the Transfer of Property Act, 1882. [The Transfer of Property (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

VII.—An Act to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments and of objects of archæological, historical or artistic interest. (The Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904.)

VIII.—An Act to amend the law relating to the Universities of British India. (The Indian Universities Act, 1904.)

X.—An Act to provide for the Constitution and Control of Co-operative Credit Societies. (The Co-operative Credit Societies Act, 1904.)

III.—PROTECTION.

XI.—An Act to revive and continue Section 8B of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894.

XII.—An Act further to amend the Indian Emigration Act, 1883. [The Indian Emigration (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

XIII.—An Act further to amend the Indian Articles of War. [The Indian Articles of War (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

XV.—An Act further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. [The Indian Stamp (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

XVI.—An Act to repeal certain words in the Sea Customs Act, 1878. [The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1904.]

Extension of Enactments to the Shan States.

39. Subject to modifications, the Burma Municipal Act Amendment Act, 1902 (Burma Act, III of 1902), was extended to the Shan States, and certain provisions of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898 (Burma Act, III of 1898, as amended by Burma Act, III of 1902), to the notified area of Lashio.

Police.

General observations.

40. Many important questions affecting the administration of the Police force were kept unsettled, pending the orders of the Government of India on the Report of the Police Commission. The police had to deal with an increased volume of crime and were less successful in detection than in the previous year.

Strength and distribution of the force.

41. The increase of crime in some of the Lower Burma districts was the main cause of an addition of 292 officers and men to the force, the cost of which increased by Rs. 81,312. Part of this increased cost was due to the improvement of accommodation.

Recruiting and conduct.

42. The actual strength fell short of the sanctioned strength by 569, the service failing to compete successfully with other more remunerative employment in some districts. It is hoped that a more elastic system of pay may remedy this defect. There was a slight decline in the number of punishments, but there was an apparent lack of system in the granting of rewards to which the Lieutenant-Governor drew attention. On the whole there was a slight improvement in the conduct and discipline of the force.

Training and education of the men.

43. The additions to the force slightly reduced the percentage (86 per cent.) of literacy. With the exception of three districts, where the methods of instruction probably require to be simplified, the results of the training of recruits were satisfactory, but there was a considerable falling off of efficiency as indicated by the results of the quarterly examinations. Musketry practice was retarded, as the rearmament of the force with the smooth bore carbine was in progress during the year. There was a gratifying improvement in the health of the police.

Buildings.

44. Good progress was made with the provision of accommodation. The work is shared between the Public Works Department and District Police Officers, who are provided with funds for the purpose.

Cognizable crime.

45. There was an increase of 4 per cent. in the volume of cognizable crime, which though largely due to greater activity under the Excise, Opium and Gambling laws and under the various enactments which regulate the conduct of the public in Municipalities and small towns, also included some serious elements such as the increase in the number of cases of grievous hurt and of aggravated forms of house-trespass, and the leading position occupied in the record of crime by the more populous and progressive districts. Violent crime, also, though less by 25 cases than in the previous year, included a larger number of dacoities. It would appear that in some districts the criminal propensities of a section of the population have outstripped the capacity of a limited police force to cope with them, and demand both a numerical increase in the staff and keener intelligence in its *personnel*. On the other hand, in most of the districts of the Pegu and Irrawaddy

III.—PROTECTION.

divisions, where crime is heavy, the village law was worked with vigour and discretion and with happy results. Cattle theft was more rife than in 1903, though it did not attain the proportions which it had assumed a decade ago. The efforts of the police were directed towards the suppression of the system of ransom by insisting upon prompt reports by the owners. On the whole, detection in cattle theft cases was poor. One of the chief benefits which is expected to accrue from the recommendations of the Police Commission is an improvement in the *status* and intelligence of officers in charge of police-stations, who form the back-bone of the police as a detective agency. Investigation was, however, somewhat more successful in cases of ordinary theft, which, though fewer than in 1903, involved a considerably larger amount of property, and in opium and excise cases it achieved a high standard.

Vigorous and successful action was taken against professional gamblers. In minor cases, which were, it would seem, instituted too freely, detection was fair. Prosecutions under the Arms Act were more numerous than in the previous year, but were adequately dealt with. They included three cases of illegal possession of dynamite.

Violent crime.

46. Firearms were employed in 49 cases of violent crime, and though a fair proportion of the cases was brought to light, only 10 per cent. of the property stolen in dacoities and robberies was recovered. The record of the year was, however, relieved by the capture of the last of the men implicated in the murder of Mr. Tucker, District Superintendent of Police, in 1894, and by the successful detection of a brutal murder committed on a Madrasi money-lender in a railway carriage. In the Pyapôn, Bassein and Tharrawaddy districts the police were also remarkably successful in dealing with dacoity, but in the northern districts of the Tenasserim Division they were frequently outwitted. In Upper Burma, the Yamèthin district not only headed the list of violent crimes but provided the material for the harassment of its neighbours, and the police were unequal to the situation.

Working of the preventive law.

47. The progressive relief which is afforded to magistrates will, it is hoped, enable them to find time for the local enquiry which prosecutions under the preventive sections require. Fewer proceedings were instituted than in 1903, but want of care in the initial stages was responsible for a considerable number of abortive prosecutions. Well conceived and well sustained action in the Paungdè subdivision of the Prome district against men who were really leaders in and organisers of crime contrasted favourably with the tendency in other districts to employ the preventive provisions against persons suspected of comparatively trivial offences.

Surveillance of criminals and beat patrols.

48. The number of criminals registered as habitual or as conditionally released steadily grows. It now reaches over 22,000. Of these 1,347 were again convicted during the year, and 17 per cent. of the total could not be traced. New rules are being devised to improve the efficiency of beat constables in this direction. The importance of enlisting the services of village headmen in the work is evidenced by the fact that the last of Mr. Tucker's murderers was found after ten years in his own village. The system of identification by finger-prints produced good results, but is capable of further improvement.

Railway Police.

49. The discipline of the Railway Police was well maintained, and the service appears to be popular. There was a nine per cent. increase in cognizable crime, which included one dacoity, four murders and two robberies, but detection, particularly in the more serious cases, was reasonably successful. Two or three heavy thefts, one involving a sum of Rs. 10,000, were committed.

Military Police.

50. Seven additional companies of Military Police were raised to replace the Military Garrison of the Southern Shan States, and the employment of indigenous races was further extended by the experimental enlistment of fifty Shans. The new companies consisted mainly of Chattri and Rohilla recruits and were enlisted without difficulty. Karen recruits do not come in freely. The cost of the

force was Rs. 51,64,818; its discipline was satisfactory, though three officers were included among the punishments; but its general health, as indicated by the number of admissions to hospital, was very indifferent. In the suppression of the rising referred to in paragraph 9 of this Report, 25 men of the Tangyan outpost were successfully employed against 100 rebels. III.—Protection.

51. Punitive Police were employed in four cases in the Ma-ubin, Sagaing and Meiktila districts. The cost of their entertainment, which was recovered from the villages concerned, amounted to Rs. 12,602. Punitive Police.

52. Although the total number of village headmen was less than in the previous year, there was a further advance towards the ideal set up in 1888, which aims at a system of independent headmen enjoying the full commission on the revenue collections within their charges, and the abolition of the highly paid circle *thugyi*. Progress was made in the mapping of village limits. Extended civil and criminal jurisdiction was conferred on a number of headmen, who ordinarily maintain order in their villages by the exercise of very limited powers. That these powers, under which fines amounting to over a lakh of rupees were imposed, were not often abused is indicated by the fact that out of nearly 14,000 cases examined more than 96 per cent. were upheld by the Deputy Commissioner. As revenue officials, the work of headmen was generally satisfactory. There were cases of delay and dishonesty, and illiteracy is still common in the remoter parts of the province. With the exception of a few cases of apathy or active connivance with criminals, the relations of headmen with the Police were good, and on two occasions remarkable courage and tenacity were displayed by villagers in the pursuit of dacoits. The enforcement of the excise and opium laws, however, received, as usual, little assistance from headmen. Connivance at breaches of the Excise law was the cause of several dismissals of headmen, which, for the rest, were less frequent than in 1903. Minor punishments increased in number. Rewards, on the other hand, were more freely given, and the presentation of these in public Durbar had a good effect in the Irrawaddy Division. In this division, also, the power of deportation of relatives and friends of criminals was exercised very successfully. The number of cases in which villages were fined for apathy, cowardice or the suppression of evidence increased considerably, and the total of fines imposed rose by more than Rs. 15,000, while fines under the Track Law aggregated Rs. 14,453 in 106 cases. Recognition was accorded to cases of successful resistance to dacoits, which were more than usually numerous, by the grant of money rewards or by partial exemption from taxation. Village administration.

Rangoon Town Police.

53. An increase of ten men was made in the Police force of Rangoon town for duty in connection with plague. The strength of the force was maintained without difficulty, except in the case of Burmese constables, and its conduct was, on the whole, satisfactory. There was, however, both an increase in the volume of crime and a falling off in the detection of the more serious offences, especially robbery and house-breaking. The latter form of crime is said to be encouraged by the existence of Chinese clubs, and measures for their regulation are under consideration. The detection of murders was more satisfactory and much unostentatious work was done in the suppression of nuisances and the general regulation of the town, which includes the surveillance of criminals and the maintenance of patrols by land and water. The conduct of the European Police was exemplary, and the hearty co-operation of the Honorary Magistrates and ward headmen was of the greatest assistance. Thefts were rife during the year, but the police were more successful in dealing with them. The continued occurrence of cases of arson engaged the attention of the Commissioner of Police, and is attributed to the want of care shown by Insurance Companies. Rangoon Town Police.

Criminal Justice.

54. The machinery charged with the administration of Criminal Justice, which has since been considerably modified, remained practically unaltered during the Courts.

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year 1904. Such additions as were made during the year of report were mainly designed to relieve subordinate executive officers of the growing burden of their magisterial duties. The congestion of work in the Sessions Court of the Pegu Division necessitated the appointment of a temporary additional Judge on two occasions.

Cases instituted.

55. In the whole province 87,132 cases were reported, of which 85,542 were brought to trial and 78,335 finally returned as true. The proportion between true and reported crime was affected by the orders of the Chief Court regarding the classification of "mistaken" cases. The number of cases instituted was nearly 6,000 more than in the previous year, but a large part of this increase was contributed by municipal and other petty prosecutions in Rangoon and other towns and by cases under the revenue rules in Henzada. The most serious feature was the increase by nearly 300 cases of grievous hurt in Lower Burma, where the frequency with which knives are used on small provocation still demands magisterial severity. Of miscellaneous proceedings, those instituted under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code shewed an increase in Lower Burma, where action was taken against 304 more persons than in 1903, while the percentage of successful prosecutions declined from 77 to 74. In Upper Burma these sections were not utilised so freely as in the previous year.

Disposal of cases.

56. The percentage of convictions fell from 62·2 to 61·7 in Lower Burma owing to the failure of magistrates to enquire fully into complaints before issuing process. In Upper Burma the percentage was practically unchanged, 63·31. The average duration of cases was 10 days in Lower Burma and 8 days in Upper Burma. The large proportion of petty cases tried by Honorary Magistrates in Rangoon affected the figures, but there was a real improvement in the Upper Province.

The Chief Court and Sessions Courts.

57. The investiture of headquarters Assistants with powers under Section 30 of the Criminal Procedure Code afforded considerable relief to Sessions Courts in Lower Burma, which dealt with only 406 cases as against 490 in 1903. The proportion of convictions declined. In the Sessions Courts of Upper Burma, also, the number of cases decreased, but the percentage of convictions was higher than in the previous year. On the other hand, the volume of original criminal work in the Chief Court of Lower Burma was nearly double that of 1903, and the cases committed to it which ended in conviction formed 77 per cent. of the total as against 66 per cent. in the previous year. In all 112 capital sentences were referred to the Chief Court and to the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, of which 81 were confirmed, 9 reduced or altered and 15 reversed.

Punishments.

58. Fines were imposed in nearly 9,000 more cases than in the previous year. The increase was largely due to the number of petty cases dealt with in Rangoon. Sentences of death declined from 93 to 85, but long terms of imprisonment were commuted to transportation in 68 more cases than in 1903, and sentences of imprisonment for terms between two and seven years were imposed in 996 cases as against 889 in that year. There was a tendency to substitute short terms of imprisonment for whipping, which was only inflicted in 2,863 cases or 22 per cent. of the cases in which its infliction was legal, and a general failure to enforce the provisions of the Code regarding the payment of compensation to complainants, but there was a satisfactory increase in the number of cases in which first offenders were released on security. Fourteen boys were sent to a Reformatory School.

Appeals.

59. The number of appeals preferred increased by 425, the increase in the Chief Court being over 100 cases and in the Sessions Court of Tenasserim, where there was serious congestion of work, nearly 200. In Upper Burma the increase was confined to Sessions and District Magistrates' Courts. The percentage of sentences confirmed was 68·3 in Lower Burma and 64·58 in Upper Burma. The proportion ranged from 77 per cent. in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner to under 30 per cent. in the District Courts of Amherst and Tavoy. The average duration of

appeals in the two parts of the Province was 16 and 12 days respectively, and in the Chief Court it rose from 23 to 29 days. Appeals by Government against orders of acquittal were successful in four out of seven cases decided. III.—PROTECTION.

60. The revisional jurisdiction of the courts was more freely exercised than in the previous year. The cases examined involved 26,911 persons, of whom 1,394 obtained a reversal, reduction or alteration of their sentences. A new trial or further enquiry was ordered in the cases of 237 persons and the sentences of 63 were enhanced. The average duration of the cases was 22 to 23 days. Revision.

61. Eighty-six cases were tried by jury and the verdict was approved by the Judge in every case, but out of 678 cases tried with the aid of assessors, the Sessions Judge differed from one or more in 60 cases and from all in 251 cases. Three hundred and nine thousand and twenty-six witnesses were examined, and a sum of Rs. 6,54,579 was realised in fines. The number of persons pending trial at the close of the year was 5,124. The assistance afforded by Honorary Magistrates, especially in Rangoon, in the disposal of cases earned the acknowledgment of the Lieutenant-Governor. Miscellaneous.

Prisons.

62. The Jail population at the beginning of the year was 11,669, including 121 females, or 501 more than in 1903. At the end of the year it had risen to 12,177. The number of admissions increased from 30,773 in the previous year to 31,058, including 913 females. There was also an increase in the daily average number from 11,187 (113 females) to 11,703 (126 females). This was due to the fact that a large number of prisoners with sentences of more than one year remained in jail at the end of 1903. There was a satisfactory decrease in the admission of juvenile offenders. Releases under the ordinary remission rules were more numerous than in 1903, but comparison of totals is affected by the special circumstances of 1903, when 1,167 prisoners were released in celebration of His Majesty's Coronation. Jail population.

63. Of the 15,792 male and 541 female prisoners admitted direct during the year, 1,812 males and 20 females had been convicted once, 821 males and 9 females twice and 781 males and 10 females more than twice. The percentage of admissions of prisoners shown as reconvicted varied from 32·03 in Bassein to 6·56 in Bhamo, the average provincial ratio being 21·14 against 22·06 in 1903. All of the habituals admitted during the year, except 26, were identified before conviction. Twenty-four were identified by jail officials after conviction and the remaining two confessed. Habituals.

64. In spite of the increase in the daily average population, the number of prison offences committed and the punishments awarded decreased from 42,913 to 41,282. Forty-one cases out of the total were dealt with by Criminal Courts and the rest by Superintendents. In the Mergui Jail a prisoner was assaulted by other convicts, but the injuries received were not severe. In a similar case in the Insein Central Jail, a convict warder received injuries which resulted in his death. In the Mandalay Central Jail the Deputy Jailor was attacked by several prisoners and was severely injured. In the last case what might have developed into a serious outbreak was effectively quelled, and the Jailor rescued by the prompt interference of the Superintendent, Captain Dee, I.M.S., who received the thanks of the Local Government for his conduct. The ringleader in this affair was sentenced by the Court of Session to transportation for life, and his companions to shorter terms. The number of punishments inflicted on convict officers, who averaged 2,522 during the year, was 10,439 or 413·92 per cent. as compared with 9,783 or 494·09 per cent. in 1903. They are, however, reported to have discharged their duties satisfactorily, although there was room for improvement as regards efficiency and trustworthiness. The percentage of the daily average of prisoners on whom fetters were imposed as a punishment and for safe custody was the same as in 1903. It is observed that prison offences are most Discipline.

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common among the habituals, who committed more than half of the major offences and earned 60 per cent. of the whippings inflicted.

Seven prisoners escaped during the year and five were recaptured. On three occasions the escapes were effected from within the jail walls.

Financial.

65. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased from Rs. 6,84,233 to Rs. 7,05,468 while the net cost decreased from Rs. 4,97,333 to Rs. 4,83,364. The increase was partly due to the purchase of food stuffs beyond immediate requirements, and partly to the payment of a special allowance to Hospital Assistants in whole-time charge of Jail Hospitals, and to the grant of Burma allowances to the Superintendents of the Jails at Rangoon, Insein and Mandalay. The profits from manufactures rose from Rs. 1,86,900 to Rs. 2,22,104, which is the highest on record. The average net cost per prisoner decreased from Rs. 44-8-0 to Rs. 41-5-0 owing to the exercise of a stricter check over expenditure by the head office, and also to the economy effected by the purchase of articles by the Inspector-General of Prisons, which resulted in a great saving to Government. The value of convict labour supplied to other public departments and the profits of the Jail Branch of the Government Printing Press, which increased from Rs. 1,28,584 to Rs. 1,73,474, are not included in the total earnings.

Gardens.

66. The Jail gardens practically supplied all the vegetables required for the consumption of the prisoners, and sales to the public realised a profit of Rs. 9,199 as against Rs. 8,724 in 1903. Besides vegetables, paddy, dhal, condiments and tamarind to the value of Rs. 18,608 were grown on jail land.

Health of prisoners.

67. The health of the prisoners was generally good. The number of admissions to Hospital and the proportion of daily sick per thousand decreased from 474 and 21 to 387 and 20 respectively, and were the lowest on record, but the death-rate rose from 17·07 to 18·63, which, though less than the average of the previous ten years, was higher than that of the three years 1901—1903. This was chiefly due to epidemics of cholera and dysentery in the Mandalay Jail attributable to a bad water-supply and to the water-logged nature of the jail site. Measures have been taken to remedy these defects by sinking a tube well inside the Jail and by draining the Jail site thoroughly and efficiently. Two thousand and fifteen prisoners or 12·34 per cent. of the total admissions confessed to being habitual consumers of opium. In the Bhamo Jail the proportion was as high as 52 per cent.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

68. Pending the inauguration of the new judicial services, the constitution of the courts remained unaltered, but a new subdivisional court was established at Kyaukpyu and further relief was afforded to the Township Courts of Tavoy and Mergui, Okpo and Lemyethna in Lower Burma, and to several Township Courts in the Upper Province. Many Township Officers in Lower Burma were divested of their civil jurisdiction.

Volume and classification of litigation.

69. The growth of trade and population in Burma was reflected in an increase in the number of suits instituted from 68,656 to 72,424. The increase was practically confined to the Lower Province and was most marked in the delta districts. Small local decreases, probably attributable to temporary causes, were reported from Toungoo and Bassein. The growth of business was shared by courts of all grades, but was most remarkable in the Township Courts (increase, 2,386 cases) and in the Small Cause Courts, especially in Rangoon. Almost the whole of this increase in litigation was due to claims for money or moveable property, and in Lower Burma claims to immoveable property would have declined in number but for the institution of a large number of such cases in the Chief Court. The number of mortgage suits instituted in the Lower Burma Courts has more than doubled in three years. The total value of suits was Rs. 1,52,37,608 or nearly 23 lakhs more than in 1903. The Chief Court of Lower Burma contributed 8½ lakhs of this increase, and district courts not much less.

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Disposal of cases.

70. In all, 78,009 suits were before the courts as against 74,240 in the previous year, and 6,109 were pending at the close of the year. Of the total, 34,186 were settled out of court, compromised or decreed on confession and 16,402 were disposed of *exparte*. Of contested suits, which numbered only 27 per cent. of the total, rather more than two-thirds were decided in favour of the plaintiff. There were 82 references to arbitration, in 65 of which the plaintiff was successful. The average duration of contested cases was 47 days in Lower Burma and 36 days in Upper Burma. Contentious business was, on the whole, more quickly disposed of than in the previous year, but the duration rose from 33 to 38 days in the Rangoon Court of Small Causes.

The number of miscellaneous cases fell from 10,446 to 9,707. This was due partly to a more correct classification of business.

Execution of decrees.

71. Although the number of applications for execution of decrees rose from 36,445 to 38,688, and the percentage of wholly infructuous proceedings fell from 37 to 36, the amount realised fell below the figure of the previous year by a lakh of rupees. Five thousand one hundred and eighty applications were pending at the close of the year, as against 3,761 at the end of 1903. Decrees were more freely enforced by the arrest of judgment-debtors, who in 764 cases were imprisoned.

Insolvency proceedings.

72. Applications for declarations of insolvency numbered 340, as compared with 264 in the previous year. The amount of creditors' claims admitted was comparatively insignificant, but a far larger proportion was satisfied. Forty-seven per cent. of the applications were rejected and 28 per cent. granted. Fifty-three insolvents were discharged during the year and 55 cases remained pending.

Appeals.

73. In Lower Burma the number of appeals before the courts (3,376) was nearly the same as in 1903, the increase of work in the Chief Court counterbalancing the decrease in the lower appellate courts. In Upper Burma there was an increase of 122 cases, most of which were appeals to district courts. Of the 4,638 appeals disposed of, 57 were dismissed for default or not prosecuted. The percentage of confirmation in the remainder was almost the same (64·5) as in the previous year, the proportion varying from 62 per cent. in the district courts of Upper Burma to 75·1 per cent. in the divisional courts of the Lower Province. Decrees of lower courts were modified in 7 per cent. and reversed in 26·5 per cent. of the cases dealt with. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 7·6 and 25·2. The duration of cases, though adversely affected by the congestion of work in some of the district courts in Lower Burma, was on the whole lower than in 1903.

Inspections.

74. The Chief Judge inspected two district courts, four subdivisional courts, and 16 Township courts and the Court of Small Causes in Rangoon was inspected by Mr. Justice Chitty. Judges of Divisional Courts inspected 18 more courts than in 1903, and Judges and additional Judges of the district courts continued to exercise their duties of supervision with satisfactory results.

Miscellaneous.

75. Constant attention has effected an improvement in the condition of the libraries of subordinate courts and in the disposition of old records in the record-rooms. Further progress was made with the provision of suitable accommodation for the various courts. In Lower Burma, the whole question was examined by the Chief Court and a statement of requirements was submitted to the Local Government. The position of clerks in the mofussil has been ameliorated since the close of the year. Two important measures affecting the administration of civil justice, namely, the conferment of testamentary powers on Burmese Buddhists, and the extension to Upper Burma of certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, are under consideration.

Registration.

Changes in the Registration Law and Rules.

76. There was no alteration of the law during the year, but certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act have been extended to the whole of Lower Burma from the 1st January 1905, the effect of which is to require the registration in

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Lower Burma of certain documents affecting property below Rs. 100 in value, the registration of which has hitherto been compulsory only in the Upper Province. The question of the complete assimilation of the Law is still under consideration. Four new rules were framed to expedite the registration of certain bilingual leases executed in large numbers and in identical forms by the lessee of a large grant and his tenants. The forms of endorsement were simplified and a new register of fees was brought into use during the year. The forms of index were also improved.

Number of offices.

77. The subregistrar's office at Natmauk in the Magwe district was closed owing to the insignificant number of transactions. At the end of the year there were 145 registration offices, of which 97 were in Lower Burma.

Documents registered.

78. There was an increase of nearly 9 per cent. in the number of documents registered and of close on 24 per cent. in their value, the number of transactions reaching 44,381 and the value of property concerned Rs. 8,21,05,739. Of the 36,354 documents registered in Lower Burma, 13,092 were deeds of sale and 17,641 mortgage deeds affecting immoveable property. The average value of the former was Rs. 2,623 as compared with Rs. 2,250 in 1903. The increase was mainly due to the rise in the value of land in and around Rangoon, where 1,653 documents of an average value of Rs. 11,742 were registered during the year. Increased wealth among the trading classes, combined with years of good crops and high prices, has tended to raise the value of investments in landed property elsewhere. In some districts of Upper Burma the excess of mortgages over sales of immoveable property tends to disappear, and the figures indicate a growth in the permanent alienation of agricultural land.

The number of optional registrations relating to immoveable property in Lower Burma fell from 637 to 447 and the value of property concerned decreased by 1½ lakhs. The more frequent resort to registration in the case of transactions in moveable property is ascribed to the growing numbers of natives of India, especially of the money-lending class, who are quick to appreciate an advantage over a potential opponent. The number and value of such transactions registered was 4,547 and Rs. 61,60,086, as against Rs. 4,104 and Rs. 44,17,356 in the previous year. The same class was mainly responsible for the growth in the number of powers-of-attorney authenticated from 1,586 to 1,867. Searches and applications for copies were considerably more numerous than in the previous year, but intending purchasers made little use of the offices outside Rangoon and its environs.

Receipts and Expenditure.

79. As compared with the previous year, the aggregate income, which amounted to Rs. 1,79,609, increased by nearly Rs. 20,000 and the expenditure (Rs. 56,378) by nearly half that amount. More than 80 per cent. of the total income was derived from fees for registration. The rise in expenditure was mainly due to the fact that the salary of Registration clerks in Lower Burma was raised from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 and to the strengthening of the staff of the Rangoon office.

General remarks.

80. Registration offices were frequently inspected and were found, for the most part, to be in good working order. The appointment of an additional officer at Rangoon and the increase of the staff were found necessary owing to complaints of delay in the disposal of business.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon.

81. A general election was held in Rangoon in November 1904. Except in the case of candidates for the representation of the European community, there was no contest, but in that case it was keen. The incidences of taxation and income per head of population were Rs. 6-15-7 and Rs. 18-11-2 as against Rs. 6-8-4 and Rs. 21-2-5, respectively, in the previous year. The ordinary income of the Municipality for the year rose by nearly a lakh of rupees to Rs. 25,01,565, the greater part of the increase being due to the assessment of newly erected buildings, and the growth of the revenue from slaughter houses and bazaars. A sum of Rs. 13,20,500 was borrowed during the year, and Rs. 57,500 paid towards the extinction of old loans without recourse to the Sinking Fund, which was increased by Rs. 62,839. Excluding suspense accounts, the ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 25,20,892, an increase of nearly five lakhs in the charges on account of

public health and convenience, which included the cost of combating the outbreak of plague, being only partially counterbalanced by the savings effected in the cost of General Administration and Collection and in the Loan account. III.—PROTECTION.

A separate banking account was opened for the Town Lands Reclamation Fund, on account of which a loan of two lakhs was raised during the year, while the expenditure increased by nearly 2½ lakhs, a large share of which was spent on the equipment of reclaimed blocks.

The most important event of the year was the inauguration of the Hlawga water-works by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Hugh Barnes, when the connection of the reservoir with the pumping station was opened. The expenditure on this work, which was in the hands of the Public Works Department, was Rs. 12,26,736, the expenditure since the commencement of operations amounting to Rs. 44,74,451, and the revised estimate for the complete work to Rs. 46,33,102. The reservoir is contained by nine dams and is connected with the pumping station by a 42″ cast iron main 15 miles in length, which was laid down in eight months. A scheme for the distribution of water within the town, involving an expenditure of Rs. 13,20,324, was submitted to Government.

All Municipal Hospitals have been transferred to Government control, the Municipality surrendering the annual grant of Rs. 2,02,300 which was formerly given in lieu of Excise receipts.

The debt of the Municipality on the 31st March 1905 amounted to Rs. 1,06,85,500. The new loans of the year, which aggregated Rs. 13,20,500, were raised at 4½ per cent. and were taken up at an average of Rs. 106-5-1. A sum of Rs. 4,45,606 was paid towards interest on old loans and the Sinking Fund amounted to Rs. 3,71,000, which was invested in 3½ per cent. Government securities.

82. There were 40 minor Municipalities with an aggregate population of 664,914 and an income, exclusive of debt accounts, of Rs. 26,20,502, which was nearly a lakh in excess of the previous year. Eight of the Municipalities were administered under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation, but the Burma Municipal Act has since been extended to all except Bhamo. Minor Municipalities.

83. The total number of members of Municipal Committees was 512 of whom 261 were nominated, 92 elected and 159 *ex-officio* members. The attendance at meetings varied from just over half the Committee to 85·81 per cent. Elections were held in six towns and were keenly contested in four. Constitution of Committees.

84. The average incidence of Municipal taxation declined from Rs. 1-10-3 to Rs. 1-10-0 per head of the population. The most noticeable decrease was in the case of Moulmein, where, owing to a reduction of the water-rate, the average sank from Rs. 4 to Rs. 3-10-7. The incidence was less than Re. 1 in 18 Municipalities and exceeded Rs. 2 in only four towns. Calculated on the total income the average incidence per head of the population declined from Rs. 5-14-6 to Rs. 4-6-11, but it was largely affected by the smaller amount received in grants and loans. Scavenging taxes were imposed for the first time at Ngathainggyaung-Daunggyi and Sagaing, and sampans came under taxation in Henzada and Ma-ubin; an additional tax on land was levied in Kyangin, and the scavenging tax was extended and the rates enhanced in Bassein. Revision of assessment was effected or in progress in fourteen Municipalities and is still needed in others. With few exceptions outstandings were not considerable and collections were promptly made. Incidence of taxation and income.

85. To an opening balance of Rs. 9,99,222 and ordinary receipts amounting to Rs. 26,20,502 the debt account added a sum of Rs. 3,27,211. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 29,94,161 as compared with Rs. 33,31,867 in 1903-04 and the aggregate closing balance was Rs. 6,07,501. Income and expenditure.

86. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 10,78,876 as compared with Rs. 10,87,382 in the previous year. The slight decrease was due to a reduction in the rate of water-tax at Moulmein. Rates and taxes.

87. The total revenue derived from Municipal property, apart from taxation, amounted to Rs. 13,36,710 as compared with Rs. 12,58,914 in 1903-04. Of the Other sources of revenue.

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whole amount, receipts on account of markets and slaughter-houses accounted for Rs. 11,41,959. The increase in the revenue from Municipal markets was most noticeable at Mandalay, Toungoo and Pegu. At Prome, fees for the slaughter of cattle and pigs were doubled, while at Moulmein a decline in the receipts was due to the fact that the right to collect fees were not sold in advance as hitherto. Rinderpest in the Thayetmyo district resulted in diminished returns from the Allanmyo cattle market and a decrease at Ngathainggyaung is attributed to the general decline of the town consequent on the opening of the railway.

Grants and contributions.

88. The amount contributed to Municipalities from Government, Local Funds and other sources shewed a considerable increase. Mergui, Bassein and Ma-ubin received grants from Government for hospitals, Ma-ubin for education, Bhamo and Minbu for general purposes. The Sandoway Municipality received Rs. 11,000 from Provincial Funds for the construction of a new hospital, and Letpadan drew Rs. 1,000 from the District Cess Fund in aid of the Town dispensary.

General Administration and collection charges.

89. Charges on account of administration and collection remained almost stationary. At Thônzè, a new Municipal Office involved an increase from Rs. 2,636 to Rs. 10,779, and similar charges of an exceptional nature in the previous year or in the year under review caused variations elsewhere. A survey at Pegu was carried out at an expenditure of Rs. 6,975.

Expenditure on Public Safety.

90. The expenditure on public safety, which included the purchase of five fire engines, amounted to Rs. 2,24,366 as against Rs. 2,17,949 in the previous year. Street lighting was introduced at Allanmyo and Minbu and the system was extended in six other towns. With the extension of the Burma Municipal Act to Upper Burma Towns, charges on account of police disappear from the Municipal accounts.

Water-supply.

91. One lakh and seventy-one thousand rupees were spent on the new water-works at Moulmein, which have now been completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,36,123. A pipe water-supply was distributed throughout the hot weather, but, owing to the default of the Committee, the Deputy Commissioner was obliged to exercise the power conferred on him by Section 184 of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, and to appoint a Municipal Engineer to take charge of the water-works when they were handed over by the Public Works Department. The new works at Prome were taken over by the Municipal Committee in May 1904 and are reported to be satisfactory. Fifty thousand gallons of water per hour are delivered. A scheme for a water-supply at Akyab has been completed and the works are now in process of construction, one lakh of the money required having been borrowed. Experimental operations at Pegu and Bassein were failures. At Thônzè an air-compressor pump was purchased for use in connection with a tube well, but the suitability of the water from similar wells at Gyobingauk and Letpadan has not been determined. At Mandalay the combined scheme for the supply of the Cantonment and the Municipality has been abandoned, and experiments are being made with wells and patent elevators for the supply of the town alone.

Sanitation.

92. At Mandalay an instalment of an extensive drainage scheme was executed by the construction of masonry drains at an expenditure of Rs. 12,935. At Prome 4,828 running feet were added to the system, and surface drainage made progress at Akyab, Pegu, Kyaukpyu and Toungoo, while complete drainage schemes were in several cases referred to the Sanitary Board for advice.

Conservancy.

93. Expenditure on conservancy rose from Rs. 4,87,502 to Rs. 5,16,256. There were considerable increases at Ma-ubin and Akyab and the system at Mergui is being reorganised. Improvements were contemplated at Pegu and Toungoo, and the Mandalay Municipal Committee is raising a loan of Rs. 80,000 for the reform of its conservancy system.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

94. The expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries slightly exceeded that of previous years. A branch dispensary was opened at Moulmein, and additions and

improvements were made to the Hospitals at Toungoo, Pegu, Bassein and Ma-ubin. At Bassein a Government grant of Rs. 6,000 assisted the Municipality to build a European ward and an operating theatre. At Thatôn the hospital built in the previous year has been much appreciated and the attendance of patients largely increased. A number of Municipalities reserved sites for camps or erected temporary hospitals with a view to dealing with plague or other epidemic disease. III.—PROTECTION.

95. The expenditure on markets amounted to Rs. 4,84,105. At Mandalay the new Zegyo bazaar was completed but was not opened till after the close of the year. Markets.

96. The total expenditure on public works decreased by Rs. 16,000, but was not abnormally low. Besides the works already mentioned, the Electric Tramways at Mandalay were opened in July 1904, and achieved immediate success. Important bridges were built at Prome and Akyab, and Rs. 11,460 were spent on roads at Pegu. Public works.

97. The expenditure on Public Instruction rose from Rs. 1,39,835 to Rs. 1,44,108. A Municipal school was opened at Zalun and schools at Kyaikto and Ma-ubin were taken over by the Municipal Committees. At Ma-ubin, Prome, Myaungmya, Thatôn and Tavoy results were good and the attendance increased. Subject to the consent of the Committees concerned, the Municipal schools at Sandoway and Kyaukpyu are to be taken over by Government and maintained as model institutions. Public Instruction.

98. The liabilities on account of interest on loans during the year amounted to Rs. 98,764 as compared with Rs. 88,353 in 1903-04. Two small loans only were made by Government, namely, Rs. 7,000 to Toungoo and Rs. 12,000 to Ma-ubin. Loans.

99. The accounts of nine Municipalities were not audited during the year. Steps have since been taken to ensure an annual scrutiny. One small defalcation came to light at Akyab, but laxity in account matters was reported from Bhamo, Gyobingauk and Shwebo, while a special auditor had to be detailed to reduce the accounts at Moulmein to order. Audit.

100. Lashio, in the Northern Shan States, was declared a notified area with effect from the 1st April 1904 and Meiktila from the 22nd December. The receipts of Town Funds amounted to Rs. 4,09,292 and the expenditure to Rs. 3,93,164, of which Rs. 3,03,153 were devoted to Public Health and Convenience. Town funds.

Military.

101. The total strength of the troops in Burma, which were under the command of Lieutenant-General D. J. S. McLeod, C.B., D.S.O., throughout the year, was on the 31st March 1905, 9,311 officers and men, of whom 4,131 were Europeans. Strength of the garrison.

102. A house for the Lieutenant-General Commanding was built at Maymyo. At the same station a pipe water-supply was provided for a native regiment, and three half-company barracks and a rifle range constructed. A septic tank installation for the British troops was also begun, and a second permanent ration godown completed for the Supply and Transport Corps. In Rangoon, quarters were built for a Colonel and a Captain under the new Cantonment Scheme, and a new Artillery mess-house with quarters for two subalterns was completed. The old barracks in the Native Infantry lines were overhauled, and plank walls provided. New semi-permanent barracks were constructed for a native regiment and permanent quarters built for four hospital assistants. Minor sanitary improvements were effected in the British Infantry lines. A small laboratory was added to the Station Hospital and a gymnasium built. The barracks of the regular troops in the Southern Shan States were handed over to the Military Police who replaced them. At Shwebo the sinking of two experimental wells for the supply of water to the Cantonment was successfully completed. The garrison at Mandalay was supplied with piped water, and various minor improvements were effected in the officers' quarters and the native officers' mess in the same station. Military works.

Military (Volunteering).

III.—PROTECTION.

Volunteers.

103. There was no change in the constitution of the volunteer forces during the year. They consist of the Rangoon Port Defence (Artillery, Naval and Engineer Corps), the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Rifles, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles. The enrolled strength of the force on the 31st March 1905 was 2,573 active and 157 reservists against 2,750 active and 89 reservists on the same date in the previous year. Of the active volunteers, 2,294 were adults and 279 cadets. The amount of capitation and other grants earned was Rs. 93,515 as against Rs. 91,696 in the previous year. An armoury with quarters for the Sergeant Instructor was nearly finished at Maymyo for the Upper Burma Volunteers.

Marine.

Surveys.

104. A number of surveys were carried out in the Rangoon river by the Port authorities. New tide guages were erected between Elephant and Grove Points and at Choki Point and King's Point, and leading marks were placed at the Hastings and Monkey Point channels.

Light-houses and light vessels.

105. Monthly visits to the light-houses and light-vessels off the coast of the province were carried out by the R.I.M. Steamers *Minto* and *Mayo*. At the annual inspection it was found that extensive repairs were necessary in some cases. There were 13 cases of beri-beri amongst the crews, of which two were fatal. Receipts from light dues amounted to Rs. 4,87,470 and the cost of maintenance to Rs. 1,38,240. Alternative estimates were prepared for iron and concrete towers in connection with the proposed light house at Beacon Island, and detailed drawings were made of all the light houses of the province for transmission to the Trinity House Board for criticism.

Government steamers and launches.

106. Eight new vessels were added to the Government flotilla during the year. Two of these were house boats for service in the Delta and one, the *Samson*, a barge designed for the work of river conservancy on the Chindwin. One launch was sold and two vessels foundered during the year, leaving the strength of the fleet at 87 vessels of all kinds. The three Royal Indian Marine Service steamers, *Irrawaddy*, *Sladen* and *Bhamo* carried by river 10,335 troops and followers, with ammunition, horses and cattle, besides 8,000 tons of stores and nearly 80 lakhs of specie. The amount of work performed by these vessels was considerably in excess of the previous year, and their earnings were calculated at Rs. 2,46,517. The total outlay on the provincial flotilla was Rs. 5,69,639 and its earnings Rs. 3,65,917. The net cost to Government was slightly higher than in 1903, but 18 launches earned more than the cost of their upkeep, the profit on the working of two paddlers in Upper Burma amounting to Rs. 29,000, and the expenditure on repairs to the buoy vessel *Retriever* was abnormally heavy. Five new launches and two new hulls are under construction.

Marine Works.

107. A beacon light was erected to facilitate the navigation of Mergui harbour. Progress was made with the reconstruction of the wharf at Victoria Point. The iron piles were received for the renewal of the main wharf at Pyapôn, where the bazaar wharf was extended 60 feet into deep water. Screw pile wharves were erected opposite the bazaar and Court house at Bogale. A fixed timber landing stage was provided at Kungyangon and a laterite jetty at Kyauktan.

Port Administration and Pilot Services.

Port Administration, Rangoon.

108. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust was Rs. 23,88,990 and its expenditure Rs. 17,93,183. The increase in receipts by over six lakhs included the payment of a large sum of arrears by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, but there was a general growth of income from fees. The premium on the loan of 1904 produced over 1½ lakhs, and godown rents were revised in favour of the Trust. The expenditure from revenue, which amounted to Rs. 15,84,759, was swollen by the growing cost of precautions against plague and by the payment of interest and provision towards a sinking fund on the ten lakhs loan of 1903. A debenture

loan of 20 lakhs was raised during the year. Proposals for the expenditure of Rs. 4,33,606 in connection with the substitution of fixed for swinging moorings and of Rs. 2,50,000 on a steam buoy-vessel were submitted to Government. Progress was made with the construction of a river wall and of new pontoons and with the reclamation of the foreshore, but the last mentioned work was suspended owing to a dispute with the Rangoon Municipality regarding the rights to the foreshore in front of the Municipal market. The bulk of the material for the extension of Latter Street Wharf was collected and 24 per cent. of the work completed. The erosion of the river bank was retarded by the sinking of cargo boats and the pitching of laterite. A dredger was ordered from the Clyde. Further extensive improvements, estimated to cost Rs. 15,51,755, were sanctioned by Government and the Commissioners have taken expert advice as to the means to be adopted to control the action of the river. The new Rangoon Port Bill was passed by the Lieutenant-Governor's Council in February 1905 and confers upon the Commissioners greater independence in finance and administration. At the same time revised scales of charges have been framed which will enable the Board to meet its obligations. III.—PROTECTION.

The credit balance of the Pilot fund increased from Rs. 78,820 to Rs. 93,252. The gross receipts for pilotage amounted to Rs. 2,55,720 and Rs. 1,73,343 were disbursed to the 21 pilots of the Port. The corresponding figures in the previous year were Rs. 2,33,325 and Rs. 1,47,311 respectively.

The Port Health Department was strengthened and stringent precautions were taken against the introduction of plague. These measures, which have unfortunately proved unsuccessful, entailed an expenditure of Rs. 1,87,691, of which Government contributed two-thirds.

109. The smaller ports of the province are administered by Government. There are Port Officers at Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein, where there are ten, three and five pilots, respectively. At Tavoy, Mergui, Kyaukpyu and Sandoway the affairs of the port are in the hands of the Deputy Commissioner. The total income of the minor port funds (excluding Debt Accounts) was Rs. 3,36,562 or Rs. 30,874 more than in the previous year, and the expenditure aggregated Rs. 3,49,868 as against Rs. 3,70,415. Minor ports.

Commercial Marine.

110. In spite of a falling off in the total number of vessels visiting the ports of the province from 9,392 to 8,032, the growing importance of Rangoon was clearly manifested by the shipping returns. Three thousand and eleven vessels entered and cleared from the port as against 2,961 in 1903-04, and the net tonnage increased from 4,149,409 to 4,701,129, the increase of 84 in the number of steamers of over 4,000 tons burden being remarkable. The number and tonnage of sailing vessels fell off considerably. The increase of shipping was largely due to the heavy demand for rice to be sent to Japan. Of the aggregate tonnage in the ports of the Province 2,355,356 out of 6,494,358 represented vessels entering from or clearing to Foreign ports, and 159 vessels sailed under a Foreign flag, those of Norway, Germany and Austria-Hungary preponderating. Six thousand eight hundred and four vessels with a tonnage of 4,139,002 were employed on the coasting trade; the figures indicate a large increase in the size of the vessels employed and an extensive substitution of steamers for sailing ships. Shipping.

111. The British India Navigation Company's steamship "Ava" went aground in January 1905 below Moulmein, broke her back and became a total wreck. The pilot was held guilty of misconduct and his license was cancelled. In July 1904 the "Mergui" sank in the Ye river and two lives were lost. The Captain was exonerated from blame. The "Pachumba" lost her propeller blades on the Research shoal off Kyaukpyu in August and lay in a perilous position till she was towed to port. The result of the Court of Enquiry is not yet known. In Rangoon Harbour there were seventeen minor casualties to vessels in charge of Harbour Masters and five accidents under pilotage charge. Courts of Enquiry were not considered necessary, but one Harbour Master was warned. Wrecks and casualties.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Agricultural stock.

112. The number of plough cattle of all kinds in the province was reduced by the ravages of disease and the flooding of grazing grounds by over 100,000. Heavy losses of cattle occurred in every district of the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions except Pegu, where the casualties (9,000) were more than replaced. There were 15,678 deaths reported from Hanthawaddy district and the cattle of Henzada were decimated by rinderpest, while Thayetmyo lost nearly one-sixth of its stock. Disease extended to the dry zone, the chief source of the supply of cattle to Lower Burma, and the stock of young animals in Magwe and Yamèthin was considerably reduced. In Amherst, where numbers of cattle were imported from Siam, some 3,000 buffalo calves succumbed to scarcity of fodder during the floods. Notable increases in Upper Burma occurred in Mandalay and Katha, Shwebo and Sagaing.

Cattle disease.

113. Cattle disease ravaged large areas of the province and was of a particularly virulent type. The mortality from disease is returned at 69,344 cattle, of which 51,977 succumbed to rinderpest. The loss to agriculturists was far greater than the sum of the two previous years and was more than 20,000 in excess of the disastrous year of 1901-02. Foot-and-mouth disease was responsible for 9,065 and anthrax for 8,302 deaths. Steps have been taken to mitigate the calamity to cultivators by the more liberal grant of loans for the purchase of new stock and by the provision of additional facilities for obtaining the concession of fallow rates, and the question of the reorganization of the subordinate and inspecting staff of the Veterinary Department is under consideration. Inoculation against disease was successfully practised, 2,727 cattle being treated with the serum, of which only 41 died after inoculation. The method grows in favour with the people and in several districts the Veterinary staff received effective co-operation from the villagers in their efforts to segregate diseased animals, but the number of expert assistants was only 82 out of a sanctioned strength of 100. It is proposed to increase the number and to provide for more effective supervision, besides

enlarging and improving the Veterinary school, which forms the sole and inadequate source of recruitment. The abnormal prevalence of disease was most marked in the Tharrawaddy, Prome, Henzada, Thayetmyo, Magwe and Kindat districts, but an increase of rinderpest was observed in most districts. The connection between the spread of contagion and the movements of cattle from district to district was clearly traceable. The system of registration of cattle deaths was extended to the Minhla subdivision of Thayetmyo district during the year. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

114. Only 56 mares were served by the four Government stallions during the year. The results are in many cases unknown, but, though the experiment has proved a failure hitherto, it is proposed to give it a further trial under the more efficient supervision which it is hoped the appointment of Inspectors will afford. Pony and cattle breeding.

Cattle shows were held at five stations, one being abandoned owing to the prevalence of disease. The exhibits were somewhat disappointing in quality, except the buffaloes, of which some very fine specimens were shewn, but there is no lack of interest on the part of local officers and it is hoped that a careful selection of dates for the shows and a better appreciation on the part of exhibitors as to what is required will lead to more satisfactory results.

115. Though the total rice crop of the Province bore a higher percentage to the normal crop than that of 1903-04, it was only 93 per cent. in the 15 chief rice-producing districts as against the bumper crop of the previous year, and the surplus cargo rice calculated to be available for export fell by 318,000 tons. As a result the price of paddy in Lower Burma was, in general, much higher than in the year before and considerably lower in Upper Burma, where the crop was comparatively abundant. The shortage of the crop in the delta encouraged speculation and it is estimated that brokers held large stocks in June 1905. Whereas the highest price in Rangoon in 1903-04 was Rs. 105, which was reached in May, this figure represented the harvest price in the adjoining district of Hanthawaddy during the year under report, while cultivators obtained as much as Rs. 108 in Moulmein, Rs. 110 in Wakèma and Rs. 115 in Thatôn. The strong demand for rice from Japan operated to maintain prices in Lower Burma at a high level, but it is doubtful whether cultivators derived any benefit from the later movements of the market. In Rangoon the first boat-loads of the new crop sold at Rs. 97 to Rs. 100 and the price rose to Rs. 104 by the third week in January. Supplies were not affected by the operations of speculators till March, when the rate was as low as Rs. 94. From that point the price was forced up to Rs. 110 in the third week in May, but had receded to Rs. 101 by the end of June, the brokers evidently fearing with reason that the market had reached its limit. In Upper Burma the fall of prices as compared with the previous year was almost universal. The year, even in the dry zone, was favourable to paddy cultivation. Prices were remarkably low in Shwebo, where late wet-weather paddy sold for Rs. 58 per 100 baskets at the threshing floor as against Rs. 100 in the previous year. In the absence of the usual demand from the dryer districts prices in Katha were Rs. 20 lower than in 1903-04, and practically the only exceptions to the general cheapening of paddy were the districts of Bhamo and Myitkyina and the interior of the Ruby Mines district. Prices.

There was a considerable decline in the price of wheat except at Salin, owing, apparently, to a smaller demand. Local failures of the crop raised the price of sessamum in some districts, and in Thatôn as much as Rs. 500 was obtained for a basket of 64 lbs. in March and April. The price of tobacco was on the whole well maintained and increased remarkably in Toungoo. In Myingyan cotton was the subject of commercial manipulation. The price obtained in November and December was Rs. 25 per 100 viss and was reduced by a combination amongst the millers. The subsequent attempt of the brokers to force up the price was disastrous to themselves but did not affect the cultivators.

116. A sum of Rs. 4,54,285 was disbursed in agricultural advances as against Rs. 3,61,056 in the previous year. In Tharrawaddy and Prome, Myaungmya and Agricultural loans.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Pyapôn, the eagerness of the people to secure advances was remarkable and large sums were taken up in several districts in Upper Burma, notably in the Kyauksè, Yamèthin and Lower Chindwin districts, in each of which Rs. 50,000 or more were disbursed as loans. The failure of Township Officers to devote sufficient attention to the subject was responsible for a falling off in some districts, and the experiment of local disbursements by these officers in the villages concerned is now bring tried.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

117. Under the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904 a Registrar was appointed in December 1904. The proposal was at first regarded by the people with distrust, but with a better understanding of the intentions of Government interest in the scheme was awakened and at the end of March 1905 four rural societies had been formed with 188 members, a subscribed capital of Rs. 5,600 and Government loans amounting to Rs. 5,000. Other Societies have since been formed and the outlook is promising.

Protection from floods.

118. The total area of cultivated land protected by embankments was 612,396 acres, or 3,765 acres less than in the previous year.

The Myanaung embankment breached below Gyogyaung, and its sphere of protection was curtailed by 20,000 acres. Elsewhere cultivation extended readily behind the embankments of the Irrawaddy and the Sittang. The cost of upkeep declined by $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of rupees and the net revenue earned by these protective works rose from Rs. 11,27,000 to Rs. 12,68,000.

Area irrigated.

119. The total area under irrigation increased from 685,658 to 797,342 acres. This result was achieved partly by the improvement and extension of the Government canal systems in Mandalay, Minbu and Kyauksè, and partly by the abundant rainfall, which more than doubled the area commanded by tanks and added 73,000 acres to the area served by private canals. The canal system in Mandalay district was in full operation and irrigated about 11,000 more acres than in the previous year. The Government system, however, taps the supply of the old Shwetachaung canal, which could not obtain water in the hot weather. An increase of over 1,000 acres in Kyauksè was the result of improvements effected in the Sama and Myaungzôn canals, and 2,196 more acres were served by tanks. In Minbu the distributaries were remodelled and the abundant rainfall provided a constant flow of water, with the result that the irrigated area increased by 6,913 acres, and an increase of 8,740 acres in Magwe was due to the efforts of the people to take advantage of a favourable monsoon by repairing their canals. Irrigation expanded by 3,643 acres in Shwebo in spite of the fact that the rainfall was insufficient to fill the Mu canal till late in the season, and the tanks of the adjoining district of Sagaing were enabled to irrigate 3,461 acres more than in 1903-04. In Yamèthin, the area served by private canals increased from 23,779 to 48,033 acres, though Government irrigation reached only three-eighths of the area nominally commanded by its operations.

In Lower Burma irrigation is mainly confined to the baling of water into "mayin" paddy-fields and betel-vine plantations, but above the delta in Prome and Thayetmyo irrigation from small tanks and bunded streams is practised, and private enterprise was slightly more active in this direction than in the previous year.

Weather and Crops.

The monsoon.

120. The general character of the monsoon in the early and middle periods was good, but with a tendency to excess. The later rains, however, on which the quality of the paddy crop largely depends, were capricious, with considerable periods of drought, which injuriously affected the weight of the grain. In Akyab drought in October was followed by excessive rain in November, and a crop which had promised exceptionally well was spoiled. In Sandoway the autumn breaks extended into November and serious damage was only averted by timely showers in December. In Northern Arakan the rainfall was throughout timely and agriculture prospered. The crops of Hanthawaddy and Prome threshed out light for

want of rain in October, and those of Pegu were further reduced by the heavy floods of July and August. In the delta districts the general characteristics ascribed above to the monsoon were predominant, but in Myaungmya the defect occurred in the middle rains. On the other hand, Thatôn and Amherst suffered from floods in the middle period and the hopes of the cultivators, some of whom had sown three times, were dashed by the early and abrupt close of the rains. Floods also did damage in Tavoy and Mergui, but in the Toungoo and Salween districts the rainfall was abundant and well distributed.

In parts of Upper Burma the general meteorological conditions of the Lower Province were reproduced, but on the whole they were more favourable. It is unusual for the rainfall to suit, in respect of abundance and distribution, both dry and wet crops, yet this result was attained in Meiktila.

Shwebo and Katha enjoyed a very favourable season. The Mandalay canal tract and Kyauksè owed a light crop to the autumn floods, and Bhamo and Myitkyina were similarly affected. The later rains failed partially in Sagaing and entirely in Yamèthin, reducing the sessamum crop in the former case and paddy and jowar in the latter. Excessive rain also damaged the sessamum crop in the Lower Chindwin and parts of the Ruby Mines districts, where the season was otherwise favourable.

Cropped area.

121. The area under crops in the season 1903-04 was 11,963,594 acres. The figures given in paragraph 90 of the Administration Report of that year have been revised in the light of later information. In 1904 05 there was an increase of 592,181 acres in the cropped area. The most notable extensions were, in round numbers 82,000 acres in Shwebo, 39,000 acres in Meiktila, 33,000 in Yamèthin, and 31,000 in Pegu. The abnormal increase of 140,000 acres in the Lower Chindwin was partly illusory, the extension of supplementary survey demonstrating the inaccuracy of previous figures. The favourable conditions of the early monsoon stimulated paddy cultivation everywhere and the hopes raised at the commencement of the season were to a great extent realised in Upper Burma. In Thatôn, however, heavy floods reduced the cropped area In Katha, the fertile Môhnyin valley, immune at length from Kachin raids, is rapidly coming under the plough. The expansion of cultivation in Myingyan and Mandalay was largely the result of improved methods of irrigation. The crops failed to mature on rather more than 5 per cent. of the area under cultivation. The failures, which were proportionately more frequent than in the previous year, were due to early floods or the failure of the later rains, though the latter in Mandalay were too heavy for the dry crops. In Shwebo, where the rainfall is seldom abundant, it was unusually timely, and the proportion of failures, which in 1903-04 was one-half, fell to one in thirteen.

Area under various crops.

122. The climatic conditions of the commencement of the agricultural season were such as favour the substitution of paddy for other crops, and the area under rice was 9,265,464 acres, or 589,548 acres more than in the preceding year. In Mandalay, under the influence of canal irrigation, three-quarters of the wheat cultivation was replaced by paddy, and in the five districts of Sagaing, Kyauksè, Meiktila, Yamèthin and Myingyan an extension of rice cultivation by 173,825 acres coincided with a reduction of 75,255 acres in the area under millet. The latter crop shared with paddy the extensions in Magwe, Mergui and the Lower Chindwin. The acreage under sessamum was 1,036,696 as against 993,679 in 1903-04, though there were large decreases in Magwe, Sagaing and Yamèthin, attributable to an unsuitable rainfall and the growing popularity of groundnuts. The cultivation of cotton responded to the good prices obtainable and to the encouragement afforded by the distribution by Government of selected seed. The crop, which occupied 188,415 acres, or 28,531 acres more than in the previous year, is readily absorbed by local ginning mills. Tobacco also commanded a ready market and, under favourable conditions as regards the formation of the alluvial islands on which it is grown, and on many of which it is gradually replacing less remunerative crops, such as peas, onions, chillies, etc., an area of 76,390 acres, or 12,571 more than the year before, was devoted to its cultivation. Sugarcane tends to be displaced by garden produce,

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

and the once flourishing orange gardens of the Amherst district are rapidly disappearing owing to the impoverishment of the soil and the neglect of the cultivators.

Horticulture.

Agri-Horticultural Societies.

123. The long contemplated removal of the gardens of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma to a site adjoining the Victoria Memorial Park was carried out during the year and a sum of Rs. 40,890 was expended on laying out and equipping the grounds. A balance of Rs. 1,08,421 was at the credit of the Society at the end of the year for the completion of the work, which aims at making the Gardens a centre of experimental cultivation as well as a botanical collection.

Horticulture.

124. Experimental gardens were maintained, as in previous years, at Taunggyi (Southern Shan States), Sinlunkaba (Bhamo), Falam (Chin Hills), Katha, Myitkyina and Sima. The expenditure, which was increased by the appointment of an additional gardener at Taunggyi, amounted to Rs. 10,547 and receipts from the sale of produce aggregated Rs. 2,615. At Sinlunkaba the vegetables and flower gardens gave excellent results and neighbouring headmen started market gardens with profit to themselves. Additions were made to the orchard by grafts and cuttings, but the cultivation of the more delicate species of stone fruits has been abandoned as unsuited to the climate. On the other hand, ripe plums and greengages of good flavour were obtained for the first time from the Falam garden and the cultivation of these and of peaches and apples was extended. Peaches were produced at Tiddim in the Chin Hills but were of poor quality. Experiments with potatoes were successful, but wheat and oats failed. The strawberry crop was indifferent. Experiments were made with the *Radicola bacteria* or nitrogen-absorbing bacteria on successive crops of peas. The characteristic nodules were found on the fourth crop and a clear culture was obtained in which after four days the bacteria appeared. It is proposed to adapt the bacteria to other crops. Birds and insects destroyed the peach crop at Katha, but vegetables thrived and the Taunggyi strawberry plants are doing well. Promising experiments were made with Manila hemp and cotton seed from Myingyan. In the Myitkyina gardens many of the trees fruited and potatoes and other vegetables were successful, but only two of the ten coffee trees planted at Sima have survived. At Taunggyi, however, the cultivation of Arabian coffee shews promise, and gratifying results have attended the introduction of oats and sweet potatoes. The fruit trees did well, but nectarines were spoiled by the early rains.

Experiments with sericulture were confined to the Southern Shan States, where it was hoped that the success attained in the similar climate of Kashmir would be repeated. These hopes were, however, disappointed. Only a few of the eggs, which were imported from France, hatched and the worms died for lack of suitable food. Partial successes were obtained with the cultivation of Virginia and Havana tobacco in Henzada, Minbu, Mandalay, Kyauksè and Ma-ubin. In the last named district the Havana variety continued to be popular and the cultivation extended by 1,139 acres. The outturns varied from 111 lbs. to 1,000 lbs. per acre and good prices were obtained, the exports of Havana leaf from Ma-ubin realising as much as the best Indian tobacco. Samples of it shewn at an exhibition at Ma-ubin were pronounced to be of good quality, though badly cured.

Experiments with tea in eight districts proved very discouraging, but coffee has been grown successfully in the Upper Chindwin as well as in the Southern Shan States. The introduction of Chinese cotton met with very limited success, but experiments continue and the distribution of selected seed of the indigenous varieties was undertaken.

Forests.

Reserves.

125. The net addition to the area of reserved forest during the year was 373 square miles and the total reached 20,411 square miles. Thirty-eight reserves with an aggregate area of 790 square miles were finally notified during the year. Of this area 396 square miles were in the Pegu Circle, where the settlement of 708

square miles awaited the orders of Government. An area of 374 square miles was disafforested in the Chin Hills in deference to the claims of villagers. The progress of settlement was considerably hampered by the dearth of officers. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

126. Four hundred and seventy-nine miles of forest boundaries were demarcated during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,519. In the Pegu Circle 129 square miles of reserves were surveyed by No. 20 Party, Survey of India, operating in the Thayetmyo Division, and a number of boundary surveys were executed by local agency. In the Tenasserim Circle local parties covered a large area, but the work of the Survey of India was confined to traverse preliminary to survey. Two parties were at work in the Upper Chindwin, Myittha, Mu and Katha Divisions and surveyed 845 square miles of forest reserves, besides 200 square miles in the Southern Circle. The entire estimated cost of survey during the year was Rs. 2,31,515. Surveys.

127. A working-plan for the forests in the plains of the Rangoon Division, comprising 83 square miles, was sanctioned with effect from the 1st January 1905, the cost being Rs. 92 per square mile, and proposals for dealing with a further area of 437 square miles have been submitted. The field work in three reserves, comprising 133 square miles, in the Thayetmyo Division was completed. The progress of working-plans in the Tenasserim Circle was delayed by sickness, and the field party only covered 50 square miles. Good progress was made with the operations in the Upper Chindwin and Myittha Divisions, though they were hampered by difficulties of transport. A working-plan for 39 square miles of reserve in the Pyinmana Division was sanctioned during the year and another was submitted which dealt with 248 square miles in the Ruby Mines Division, where new operations were commenced in the Nahan reserves. Preliminary reports on working plans were prepared and approved in the Southern Circle (614 square miles) and for seven small fuel reserves in the Tharrawaddy Division. Out of a total forest area of 123,614 square miles only 3,266 square miles have been scientifically prepared for exploitation, and the strength of the staff has not permitted an adherence to the programme of operations. Working-plan

128. The number of prosecutions instituted for forest offences increased from 2,647 to 3,393. In the Pegu Division the appointment of a Ranger to supervise a large fuel reserve was responsible for a large number of prosecutions for petty offences. Forest prosecutions were nearly twice as frequent in the Tenasserim Circle as in the previous year and were the result of better supervision. The wholesale cutting of green teak for cart-wheels in the Thayetmyo Division was punished by the imprisonment of one man for six months and the fining of the village concerned, and a similar case was dealt with by the Thaungthut *Sawbwa* in the Upper Chindwin. Forest subordinates were implicated or suspected in serious cases in the Mu and Shwegyin Divisions. Forest offences.

129. Protective operations were carried out over an area of 5,291,712 acres, of which 92 per cent. was successfully protected, the extension of the system being more than counterbalanced by the larger area in which the work was unsuccessful. Although one fire in the Thayetmyo Division was in progress for eight days and four outbreaks burned 77,227 acres in the East Yoma reserve, protection was on the whole more efficacious in the Pegu Circle, but serious damage was done to plantations. The fire season was exceptionally dry and protracted in the Tenasserim Circle, and in two divisions alone 71 outbreaks, in several of which incendiarism was suspected, covered an area of nearly 28,000 acres. In the Shwegyin Division two large fires were attributed to the attempts of cattle-thieves to obliterate their tracks. The work of protection in Upper Burma was facilitated by the fall of rain in March and results were better than in the previous year, but two large fires in Pyinmana, one of which involved a valuable teak plantation, were attributed to incendiaries, who were not brought to justice. The cost of fire-protection during the year was Rs. 2,73,334. Fire-protection.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Plantations and experimental cultivation.

130. The area of plantations was 44,255 acres. More than half of this area was in the Pegu Circle where the plantation of teak on *taungyas* was widely extended, though for want of supervision the results were indifferent. In the Tenasserim Circle, where *taungya* plantations were extended by 1,112 acres, failures are attributable mainly to the early arrival of the rains.

The rubber trees in the experimental garden numbered 7,636. Tapping was in progress from October till the end of April and was found to be most productive in the dry weather. One thousand four hundred and fifty pounds of rubber were collected and sent to London. The price obtained for the produce of the previous year varied from 3*s*. 8*d*. to 5*s*. 3½*d*. per lb. The Mergui rubber plantation was further extended and protected by fencing against the depredations of wild animals, by which from 50 to 75 per cent. of the Hevea plants had been destroyed. The whole of the seed-crop of Hevea rubber was destroyed by a fungus, but other species of rubber are doing well. The expenditure on the plantation since its formation has been Rs. 1,64,942. In the Pegu Circle, Hevea rubber was successfully grown and Mahogany made slow progress. In Upper Burma, successful experiments were made with camphor and *Ficus elastica*, and yews and deodars did well at Bernardmyo, where, however, walnuts, eucalyptus and acacia were destroyed by crickets.

Extraction and sale of timber.

131. The total outturn of timber and fuel in Burma was 54,920,855 cubic feet as against 48,547,381 in the previous year. Of this total more than 56 per cent. represented rough logs of mature timber, but the proportion of unreserved woods was considerably higher than in the previous year and the extraction of teak in the rough declined by 887,905 cubic feet. In the Pegu Circle only 11 per cent. of the produce was extracted by Government agency, the outturn of timber in the previous year having been swollen by a favourable floating season. The Rangoon depôt suspended operations on account of anthrax amongst the elephants. The timber which should have been sent down was sold locally before the usual time, with the result that the receipts during the year were abnormally large. The smaller outturn of teak in the Tenasserim Circle was mainly due to the difficulties of extraction experienced by the lessees of the Toungoo forests. The system of purchase contracts partially superseded extraction by Government agency in the Northern Circle, where the amount of unreserved timber extracted by purchasers was nearly three times as large as in the previous year. Heavy fellings of *pyingado* for the Burma Railways were carried out in the Pyinmana Division by Government agency and the extractions of timber by purchasers in the Southern Circle were 18,480 tons in excess of the previous year. The outturn of fuel throughout the Province was more than 2⅓ millions of cubic feet above that of 1903-04, and the value of minor forest produce showed an advance of 1⅓ lakhs of rupees.

Financial results.

132. While the expenditure of the Forest Department remained practically unchanged, the total receipts rose from Rs. 85,19,404 to Rs. 1,09,61,494, and the surplus from 50 to nearly 74⅓ lakhs. This result was partly due to the early sales of timber in the Pegu Circle referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Mines and Quarries.

Concessions.

133 The chief mining industries continue to attract enterprise and capital, the number of applications for mining concessions of all kinds presented during the last ten months of 1904 and the first two months of 1905 being 81, of which 41 were granted. Several new syndicates and companies have been formed to develop concessions and one or two firms of good standing not hitherto interested in mining have now entered the field. The grant of concessions is regulated by the Mining Rules framed by the Government of India, except concessions relating to the commoner minerals, for which rules have been framed under the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and the Upper Burma Land Revenue Regulation, 1889, and to precious stones in certain tracts in Upper Burma, to which the Upper Burma Ruby Regulation, 1887, applies. The rules have worked satisfactorily and no occasion has arisen for altering them, except in respect of the new industry of gold-dredging, for which special regulations are under consideration.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Petroleum.

134. In the petroleum industry no effective competitor appeared in the field against the Burma Oil Company which again largely increased its output. Negotiations were in progress regarding arrangements for the construction by the Company of a pipe-line to connect the Yenangyaung and Yenangyat oil fields with the refineries at Rangoon for the purpose of reducing the cost of carriage. The total production of oil in 1904 was 115,903,804 gallons, or 30,575,313 gallons in excess of the previous year. The Yenangyaung field, which has now been extended northwards to Singu in the Myingyan district, and the Yenangyat (Pakôkku) field were still the only oil-fields which produced oil in large quantities. Efforts were made by prospectors to follow up the course of the rich oil-bearing seams of these fields, but concessions granted in the Lower Chindwin, Shwebo and Upper Chindwin districts, and in Thayetmyo and Prome, proved unprofitable. The Arakan oil-fields in the Kyaukpyu and Akyab districts continued to produce oil but the output was small. The provisions of the rules, which require that effective operations shall be begun within two years of the execution of a lease, have not hitherto been strictly enforced as regards mining leases for oil, and the time allowed has generally been extended where there were indications of a *bonâ fide* intention to work the concession. A considerable proportion of the concessions granted have consequently not yet been thoroughly tested. New conditions have been prescribed in licenses to prospect for oil, providing for the supply of oil for the requirements of the Admiralty and for the refining of the oil in British India. The Government of India is also considering the revision of the conditions on which leases are granted.

Rubies.

135. The production of rubies during 1904 was practically confined to the Ruby Mines district. Stones valued at Rs. 13,92,514 were won by the Ruby Mines Company during the year 1904 as against Rs. 14,68,636 in 1903, though 400,000 more truck-loads of earth were treated than in the previous year. The royalties paid by native miners fell from Rs. 3,51,910 in 1903-04 to Rs. 2,20,372 in 1904-05. The decrease is attributed to the exhaustion of the more accessible ground. The construction of an important drainage tunnel was undertaken to prevent the flooding of the mines.

Gold.

136. The total output of gold during 1904 was 215·76 ounces. The Kyaukpazat mine, which produced 1,396 ounces of gold in 1903, was closed during that year, the reef being worked out, and the output of 1904 was almost entirely obtained by dredging. The Mining Rules contain no special provisions suitable for gold-dredging operations, for which several concessions have been granted. During the year a number of applications for exploring or prospecting licenses and for mining leases for gold were dealt with and an expert examination of the gold-bearing rivers of Upper Burma is to be made with a view to the framing of suitable regulations.

Coal.

137. No coal of good quality has yet been produced: and owing to the closing of the Letkôkpin mine in February 1904 the output for the year fell to 1,105 tons. Although the results hitherto achieved have not been great, the commercial value of a local field continued to attract enterprise, and eleven fresh applications were made during the year for exploring and prospecting licenses. These applications related to many different localities, and included areas in Upper Burma and the Northern Shan States Thayetmyo and the Tenasserim coast districts.

Tin.

138. Tin-mining was confined to the districts of Mergui and Tavoy. The output in 1904 amounted to 1,388 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,23,631, an outbreak of beriberi at the principal mine in the Mergui district having interfered with the work.

Jade.

139. There was an increase in the quantity of jade extracted from the mines in the Myitkyina district from 1,169 cwt., valued at Rs. 77,691, to 2,244 cwt., valued at Rs. 1,50,087, and during the year 1904-05 the value of the exports of the stone to China, which absorbs the whole of the output, exceeded by Rs. 80,000 the figures of the previous year. Dynamite was freely used in the working of the mines.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Other minerals.

140. The old silver mines at Punshi in the Bhamo district were examined by an expert and found to be valueless. The fees realised from the tourmaline industry at Mogôk fell from Rs. 1,058 to Rs. 726. One hundred and forty-five cwt. of steatite were extracted in the Minbu district and a few men were engaged in the corundum mines in the Hill Tracts of Myitkyina. A mining lease for plumbago was issued in the Ruby Mines district, and the working of marble in the Sagyin Hill Tract, Mandalay, was resumed by local miners. Gravel, laterite, stone metal and limestone were extracted in many districts to meet local requirements.

Principal Industries.

141. There is no indication that the staple home industries of the people are being displaced by the introduction of machinery or organised into large commercial enterprises. Factories have absorbed the rice, timber, oil and cotton industries and to a certain extent the manufacture of salt, but the simple domestic requirements of the bulk of the population and their love of ornament are for the most part satisfied by the products of local industry, which in many cases is merely supplementary to the great business of agriculture. In rural tracts nearly every Burmese woman can provide the every-day clothing of the household, while in many places the local silk weaver provides gala garments. Potters, carpenters and blacksmiths and makers of shoes, mats and cheroots are to be found wherever there is raw material and a demand for their wares, and gold and silver-smiths and lacquer-workers cater for the artistic instincts of the people. Oil and *ngapi* are frequently home products and the latter, as manufactured in some of the delta districts, has attained a more than local celebrity. Excellence of workmanship has also secured for the silks of Amarapura, the mats of Ma-ubin, the lacquerwork of Pagan and the umbrellas of Bassein a wider, though still restricted, market, but enterprise and advertisement are lacking and it may be said of most of the home industries of Burma that they are rather the inevitable outcome of a pressing local demand than the result of reasoned commercial activity.

The numbers engaged on each industry are recorded in the census of 1901, but except in the case of skilled artizans are probably far below the actual numbers.

Factories.

142. Twelve more factories came under the operation of the Factories Act, 1881. The total number of factories at the end of the year was 202, of which more than half are situated in Rangoon. Nine new rice-mills were built, four in Rangoon and the rest in Lower Burma districts. The total number of operatives showed a corresponding increase from 32,345 to 34,970, of whom 21,034 were employed in Rangoon town.

The health and treatment of factory operatives were generally reported to be satisfactory, but the conditions of work in the Government Press and the sanitary state of the cooly lines in Bassein were unfavourably criticised. Steps are being taken to remedy the defects. Orders have also been issued to enforce the greater regularity of inspections. The rate of wages, already high, showed a further tendency to increase in spite of the steady flow of imported labour. The average remuneration of a cooly in a rice-mill is now Rs. 15. Hitherto, in Bassein it was only Rs. 13, and it is said still to be as low as Rs. 8 in Hanthawaddy. The wages earned by fitters and carpenters declined in some factories, but engine drivers in Bassein received Rs. 75 and Rs. 40 in saw-mills and rice-mills respectively as against Rs. 30 and Rs. 35 in the previous year.

The number of women employed in factories decreased slightly, but a new rope factory in Rangoon found employment for 100 more children.

There were 161 accidents in the year as against 163 in the previous year. Only seven were fatal, but the number of serious accidents increased from 76 to 80. The character of the accidents did not disclose the necessity for any further precautions. There were no convictions under section 15 of the Factories Act.

It has been decided that for the present the Act should not be extended to Upper Burma. In the case of certain classes of factories the minimum number of inspections was reduced. No other rules or general instructions were issued during the year.

Trade.

143. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Province in 1904-05 was Rs. 42,18,00,740 as against Rs. 39,46,70,251 in the previous year. The latter figure was itself unprecedented, and a further increase of 6·8 per cent. is a striking indication of the expansion of trade. Foreign trade, of which, in the case of the chief Port, the United Kingdom absorbed 33·84 per cent., bore a smaller proportion to the aggregate volume than in 1903-04, though its value increased by more than a crore of rupees, and the most remarkable feature was the growth the export trade to India.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Maritime trade. Total value.

144. Ninety-eight per cent. of the foreign imports came to Rangoon, where their total value was Rs. 8,94,45,014. This figure is exclusive of Government transactions, the volume of which, owing chiefly to the import of locomotives and railway materials for the Burma Railways, was nearly twice as great as in the previous year, and it represents an advance of 8·23 per cent. in the inward trade of the Port. Cotton goods constituted 28 per cent. of the foreign imports at the chief Port and their value rose by more than 40 lakhs. The increase took place in spite of a smaller demand for twist and yarn, of which large stocks were in hand, and in face of the high price of the raw material which affected the competition of European with Indian piece-goods. Woollen goods were also imported in much larger quantities, but a considerable portion of the increase, which amounted to over 15 lakhs in value, remained in stock at the end of the year. The consignments of raw silk, especially from Hongkong, showed a large increase. Pure silk piece-goods declined from 9,390,917 yards to 8,104,709 yards; the imports from Japan decreased by five million yards in quantity and 29 lakhs of rupees in value, while the receipts from the Straits (largely of Chinese manufacture) were three and half million yards in excess of the previous year. The total value of silk imported fell from Rs. 63,01,140 to Rs. 56,72,030. There was a decline in the importation of wine for European consumption, but the cheaper forms of spirits were in great demand and the import of French brandy rose by 10,000 gallons. Over-trading with Japan in the previous year, in anticipation of the war, had outstripped the demand for matches, and the shortage of over two lakhs of rupees indicated the return of the trade to its normal dimensions. The imports of metals declined from 1,197,143 cwt. to 1,104,396 cwt. Bar steel continues to replace bar iron, and tinned iron sheets were in strong demand for the oil trade, but the iron trade was overstocked in the previous year and the importations of galvanized iron sheets in 1904-05, which rose by 57,000 cwt. were again beyond the requirements of the market. The construction of new rice and timber mills and steamers was responsible for a rise of over four lakhs in the value of consignments of machinery and mill work, and an increase of Rs. 84,000 under railway plant and rolling stock represents part of the outlay on the electrification of tramways. Cutlery and hardware maintained their position, in spite of a 40 per cent. increase in the previous year, the value of the imports being Rs. 32,46,308 as against Rs. 32,52,734 in 1903-04. In spite of the growing popularity of the locally refined oil and the failure of the cargo of Russian oil received at the end of the previous year to find a ready market, the importations of kerosene from the United States reached over two million gallons, or 700,000 gallons more than in 1903-04. Heavy stocks of foreign oil remained unsold. The value of imported oil rose from Rs. 13,31,620 to Rs. 17,27,626. The prosperity consequent on a good harvest increased the demand for imported provisions, which rose from Rs. 53,47,812 to Rs. 56,70,400, and included not only *ngapi* and salted fish but also large quantities of British groceries. Salt, also, was imported in larger quantities, the value being Rs. 10,60,148 as against Rs. 8,26,182 in the previous year; but part of this difference was due to a rise of 50 per cent. in the price of the German article, which successfully withstood the competition of the cheaper English and Aden products. The total quantity imported increased by nearly 3,000 tons. The quantity of refined sugar imported fell from 328,299 to 327,122 cwt., but prices were considerably higher than in the previous year, partly owing to the poverty of the beet crop. Only 5 per cent. of the imports were bounty-fed. Arrivals from the United Kingdom declined by 48,000 cwt., while the imports from Java were double those of the previous year.

Foreign imports. Rangoon.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Foreign imports. Minor ports.

145. The total value of foreign imports at the minor ports was Rs. 19,05,398, or about a lakh less than in the previous year. Moulmein absorbed 71 per cent. of the total trade. The growth of the trade in kerosene oil was remarkable, the value rising from Rs. 77,734 to Rs. 2,07,280. The imports of betelnut increased in value by Rs. 50,000, of which a large proportion went to Tavoy and Mergui. Salt and sugar were amongst the articles less freely imported. Bassein tends to draw its supplies from Rangoon, and its inward foreign trade shows a steady decline.

Foreign exports. Rangoon.

146. While the percentage of increase on the foreign import trade of the chief port was 8·23, exports, though of far greater value, shewed an increase of only 1·23 per cent. The decline of the teak, cotton and cutch trades explains this comparative stagnation. The shipments of teak from Rangoon were lower than they have been for some years, though the price has risen considerably. Exports to the United Kingdom fell in quantity from 36,164 to 21,328 tons and in value from Rs. 47,42,687 to Rs. 28,54,563, and Ceylon, which is the only other considerable purchaser, took 6,000 fewer tons than in the previous year. The decrease may be attributed partly to the competition of Java and Siam timber and partly to the existence of large stocks at the end of the previous year. The cutch trade exhibited a heavy falling off from the figures of 1903-04, which were, however, abnormal. The decrease from 109,850 cwt. to 60,362 cwt., representing a loss to trade of not much less than 10 lakhs, was the natural result of the discovery of a substitute by chemical science, but was probably assisted by the exhaustive workings of previous years. The exports of raw cotton fell from 97,181 cwt., worth Rs. 26,38,785 to 50,345 cwt., valued at Rs. 13,90,679. The crop, though more extensively grown, was not abundant, being spoiled by the October rains.

Rice constituted 81 per cent. of the total exports. The increase in the trade is not fairly represented by the value of the transactions, which rose from Rs. 10,25,94,489 to Rs. 10,42,57,383, for prices ruled generally lower and the shipments were more than 160,000 tons in excess of the previous year. Exports to the United Kingdom increased by 25,000 tons and Italy, Sweden and the Balkan States were larger buyers, while the most notable decrease in the European trade occurred in the shipments to Austria, Germany and Holland. There was a heavy decline in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements and the Philippines, but 9,147,269 cwt., or nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the whole quantity exported, went to Japan and the requirements of South America were 24,000 tons in excess of the previous year. The increasing demand for caoutchouc in the European and American markets and the high prices obtainable raised the export of this commodity from 566 cwt. to 1,871 cwt. There was a remarkable rise in the quantity and value of hides exported, especially to the United Kingdom, which contributed nearly 10½ lakhs towards a total of Rs. 32,19,735, the British share of the previous year's trade (Rs. 24,68,315) being Rs. 5,75,746. The quality of jade consigned by sea was inferior, and though shipments were large in bulk the value declined from Rs. 8,22,585 to Rs 6,24,050. Mineral oils were exported to the value of Rs. 28,05,987 as against Rs. 10,04,660 in the previous year. The establishment of agencies in China and the Straits Settlements largely extended the trade in kerosene oil with those places and there was a stronger demand for paraffin wax, especially in the United Kingdom. There were also heavy home consignments of oil for use as fuel on the vessels of the Burma Oil Company.

Foreign exports, Minor ports.

147. The value of the foreign export trade from the smaller ports aggregated Rs. 3,43,14,098 as against Rs. 3,23,06,923 in 1903-04. The enhanced shipments of rice from Moulmein, Tavoy and Bassein were the main factor in this result, the teak trade shewing a decline in value of 8¼ lakhs. Moulmein absorbed 42 per cent. of the trade of the outports, Bassein, which during the year made its first shipment of rice to South America, coming next. The rice trade of Akyab with foreign ports declined by more than 5 lakhs.

Coasting trade.

148. The total value of the coasting trade of the Province was Rs. 16,75,23,413 or Rs. 1,68,76,929 more than in the previous year. The increase was much more noticeable in exports than in imports, the former rising by 22·7 per cent. whereas

the percentage of increase in the latter was only 2·6 per cent. In Rangoon, gunny-bags, betel-nuts and piece-goods from Bengal were the principal items in an increase of nearly 31¾ lakhs in the import trade, while the Indian demand for Burma rice and the phenomenal popularity of Burma oil were responsible for a rise of over one crore and 27½ lakhs in the value of exports. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The coasting trade of the subordinate ports shewed an advance of 6·4 per cent., the enhanced value of exports being nearly four times as great as that of imports.

149. The total volume of inland trade reached a value of Rs. 4,03,42,415, or 33⅓ lakhs more than in the previous year, but the increase was proportionately much greater in exports than in imports, the percentages of increase being 16 and 3·7 respectively. The statistics of trade were recorded at 38 stations, four of which were newly established during the year on the trade routes to the Southern Shan States, in order that the commercial value of the projected railway might be more accurately gauged. Double registration was prevented by the establishment of check stations, and the difficulty which traders had occasionally experienced in obtaining passes at the remoter posts was reduced to a minimum. The cost of the registering establishment was Rs. 17,412. Transfrontier trade.

150. The disproportion between the export and import trades was most noticeable in the case of Western China. The value of exports was nearly five lakhs in excess of the previous year, while there was a decline of 2·56 per cent. in the imports, which are reduced by the restrictions placed on the introduction of Yünnan opium into Burma. On the other hand, the establishment of the imperial Chinese customs at Têngyüeh, the improvement of communications, the grant of a rebate on the Rangoon import tariff and the respect paid to transit passes by the collectors of *likin*, have all tended to stimulate the export trade, the growth of which was most noticeable in the case of raw cotton (Rs. 2,44,000), jade (Rs. 88,000) and silver (Rs. 1,33,000). Western China.

151. The total value of trade with the Northern Shan States rose from Rs. 96,35,227 to Rs. 1,11,25,964, the percentage of increase being 11·9 for imports and 20·7 for exports. The commercial value of the railway is indicated by the growth of the inward tea trade and the enhanced demand for European cotton goods, which together added about Rs. 9,84,000 to the volume of trade. Shan States.

Some portion of the apparently enormous expansion of trade with the Southern Shan States, which, as indicated by the returns, amounted to Rs. 27,36,000 more than in the previous year, must be attributed to the improvement of the system of registration. Almost every article, both of export and import, shared in this result, the whole volume of trade being valued at Rs. 1,14,56,224, out of which the movements of silver accounted for Rs. 24,83,733.

152. Both the inward and outward trade with Northern Siam responded to the more peaceful conditions obtaining on the border and to the development of communications with Burma, but the Raheng route declined in popularity and the trade with Southern Siam was less than half that of the previous year, the establishment of a Kheddah in Burma having reduced the imports of elephants and the consequent export of silver. The total trade with Siam declined by rather more than 4½ lakhs, or from Rs. 81,97,951 to Rs. 77,69,991. Siam.

153. The bulk of the trade with Karenni consists of teak, of which a much smaller quantity was produced than in 1903-04, the remittances of silver in exchange being correspondingly restricted. The value of the whole trade declined from Rs. 41,45,097 to Rs. 32,70,240. Karenni.

Public Works.

154. For the administration of Public Works, the Province was divided, as in 1903, into four Circles of Superintendence for works in the Roads and Buildings Branch with a fifth special Circle for irrigation works. A general revision of, and General.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

increase in the establishment, which was sanctioned from the 15th February, was not carried into effect until after the close of the year. With the exception of a few minor changes, the divisional charges remained as in the preceding year, the Kēngtūng, Hlawga Water Works and Town Lands Reclamation Divisions being administered under the direct orders of the Chief Engineer.

The aggregate expenditure on public works during the year amounted to Rs. 1,25,93,934 out of a total grant of Rs. 1,31,48,413. Of the total outlay, Rs. 39,20,331 were spent on civil buildings and Rs. 36,72,282 on communications from Provincial funds alone, and Rs. 21,79,275 on miscellaneous public improvements from all sources. Charges for establishment amounted to 17½ lakhs of rupees.

Civil Works—Imperial.

Burma China Frontier.

155. The demarcation of the Burma-China Frontier with permanent boundary pillars from the most northerly point to the junction of the Namting and Salween rivers was completed by the erection of permanent boundary pillars. The work was carried out by the Burma Company of the Queen's Own Sappers and Miners.

Wireless Telegraph stations were started at Slipper and Diamond Islands with a view to establishing communication between the Andamans and Burma. Materials were carried across, sites selected, and work started on both Islands.

The outlay on Imperial works was Rs. 12,966.

Buildings—Provincial.

Customs.

156. The construction of a Bonded-Warehouse at Bhamo, with quarters for a Customs Officer, was completed.

Post Offices.

157. The necessity for increased accommodation at the Head Post Office in Rangoon and Mandalay has become pronounced and the provision of new and enlarged buildings is under consideration.

Post Offices were constructed at Kanyutkwin, Syriam, and Bassein, with quarters for the Postmaster at the latter place.

Offices, with quarters for Superintendents of Post Offices, were commenced at Akyab and Mônywa, and quarters for Postal Clerks were completed at Mogôk.

Combined Post and Telegraph Offices were completed at Dala, Kamaing, Saw and Pyinmana, and are under construction at Möngnai, in the Southern Shan States. Accommodation was provided in the Post Office at Minbya for the Telegraph Office, and the circuit-house at Pegu is being converted into a combined Post and Telegraph Office.

Telegraphs.

158. The rapid erosion of the river bank at Elephant Point necessitated the removal and re-erection, further inland, of the Telegraph buildings and outhouses.

A new office was provided at Tavoy and one at Ye was under construction, and the battery room attached to the office at Akyab was extended. The Telegraph buildings in the civil station and Cantonments at Shwebo were extended. An engine shed was built to house machinery for electric plant at the Head Office, Mandalay.

At Maymyo an office and quarters for the Superintendent of Telegraphs, Upper Burma Division, and quarters for three clerks, were completed, and combined quarters and office were provided for the Subdivisional Officer at Myitkyina. The signallers' quarters at Akyab were improved and quarters for the Telegraph Master and signallers at Kalewa completed.

Administration.

159. Residential quarters at Maymyo for the Chief, General, Revenue, and Public Works Secretaries and the Inspector-General of Police were completed.

The piped water-supply to Government House, Mandalay, was completed and all the electric plant moved within the fort wall. Quarters were provided at Government House, Rangoon, for the Accountant, Hospital Assistant, and Steward, and a few minor improvements were effected.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

A combined record-room and treasury strong-room was constructed for the new district of Pyapôn. An office and record-room for the Land Records Department at Kyaukpyu were practically completed, and materials collected for a similar work at Akyab. A building to accommodate the Land Records and Town Lands Offices and Survey School at Bassein was started, but work was stopped pending consideration of the advisability of converting the building into a court house for the Divisional and District Judges. The extension of the District record-room at Mogôk was in progress, and a record-room for the District offices at Katha completed.

The treasury buildings at Kyaukpyu were improved, and a treasure-vault was completed at Sinbaungwè.

Eight new opium shops were built at various places and ten others were extended or improved, while two shops were dismantled and re-erected on more suitable sites.

The conversion of "Salween House," Moulmein, into quarters for the Commissioner, Tenasserim Division, was undertaken; quarters were built for Superintendents of Land Records at Thayetmyo, Pegu and Tavoy, and a residence was commenced at Falam for the Superintendent, Chin Hills.

Loilem having been selected as the headquarters of a division of the Southern Shan States, quarters for the Assistant Political Officer with a permanent office and court were commenced at that station. A record-room at Papun was started. Permanent quarters were begun for the Assistant Political Officer at Tangyan and progress was made with similar quarters at Sadôn and Sima.

Minor Departments.

160. A site was selected at Rangoon for the New Provincial Museum and the Museum at Pagan was completed. One of the buildings on the Palace platform at Mandalay was adapted as a museum for illustrating the dress and customs of the different tribes of Burma.

The *pyatthat* over the Lion Throne on the Palace platform (Mandalay) showed signs of collapsing and it became necessary to take it down: the work of re-erection is now in progress. A small masonry *pyatthat* was built at Amarapura over the spot where Shwebo Min's remains were incinerated.

Educational.

161. A gymnasium was constructed at the Government College, Rangoon.

An Anglo-Vernacular school-house at Maymyo for 300 pupils, which aims at the provision of facilities for the education of domiciled European and Eurasian children in a good climate, was nearly finished during the year; the boarding house for 30 pupils, with masters' quarters, which are part of the scheme, were completed in the preceding year. A piped water-supply has been made available.

An Anglo-Vernacular school for 100 boys at Thazi, and a Normal school at Mandalay, with boarding accommodation for 40 pupils, were completed.

Quarters were built for the head-master of the School for the sons of Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi, and various additions and improvements were made to the school buildings.

The sanitary equipment of the Empress Victoria Buddhist Girls' School was improved. The enlargement of the Government High and Normal schools, and the construction of a school for drawing and Slöjd, and of a Buddhist Society's School at Moulmein were taken in hand.

Ecclesiastical.

162. The Mogôk cemetery was extended. New stables and a coach-house were built at Bishop's Court, Rangoon.

Law and Justice.

163. The design and estimate for the new Chief Court at Rangoon were submitted to the Government of India for the sanction of the Secretary of State. The cost of the project is estimated at about 22½ lakhs of rupees.

The roof of the building in which the Court of Small Causes, Rangoon, is located was altered in order to admit more light and air, and the sanitary connections were re-arranged.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Several buildings were undertaken during the year in anticipation of the requirements of the new Judicial Service. A new Sessions Court was under construction at Pegu: the District Judge's Court at Moulmein is being extended to provide a court house for the Additional Judge. The construction of a Court house for the Magistrate and Judge was started at Pyu and additional accommodation is also being provided for the Nyaunglebin courts. A combined Subdivisional and Township court house at Homalin, Upper Chindwin, was nearly completed; court houses for the Township Officer, Satthwa, and the Civil Judge at Pantanaw were finished, quarters and a court house for the Civil Officer at Sinlun, Bhamo, were half completed, and extensions were carried out to the Subdivisional court houses at Wuntho, Mawlu and Indaw. The court buildings at Mandalay, Thabaung, Kyaukpyu, Ma-ubin, Rangoon (Hanthawaddy), Dedayè and Danubyu were altered and extended. Accommodation was provided for the Civil Judges at Myohaung, Kyauktan and Maungdaw, by enlarging existing court houses: and provision was made in the Treasury Buildings for the office of the Subdivisional Officer, Kyaukpyu. The following buildings are also in course of erection: Subdivisional Officers' Court, Paungdè; Township Courts, Thègôn and Okpo; court and offices at Myaungmya; court and offices for township officer and Civil Judge at Einmè; court and offices at Wakèma for Subdivisional and Township Officers; combined courts for Township Officer and Township Judge at Maulmeingyun; district court house at Pyapôn, and Township office at Kyaiklat.

Quarters for the Deputy Commissioner were completed at Kyaukpyu, and certain additions and alterations were made to those at Prome, Pyapôn and Ma-ubin and to the Assistant Commissioners' and Subdivisional officers' quarters at Ma-ubin and Wakèma respectively. Materials were collected for the Assistant Commissioner's quarters at Paungdè and quarters for a Myoôk were built at Maymyo.

Jails.

164. Good progress was made with the construction of the new Jail at Moulmein, which is nearing completion; the outer and inner walls, wards, dormitories, hospitals and work sheds were finished. Work on the Mogôk jail progressed satisfactorily, considering the difficulty in securing labour.

The water-supply of the Mandalay Jail having been condemned, a tube well was sunk within the jail enclosure; but arrangements for lifting and distributing the water have still to be carried out.

Minor improvements were made to the Sandoway, Akyab and Kyaukpyu jails, and a steam-cooking apparatus was provided at Myaungmya.

Additions and improvements were made to the jail granary at Henzada and a new sale-room and quarters for the Deputy Jailor were erected at Prome.

Military Police.

165. Permanent barracks are under construction at Taunggyi and Ngwelong, Southern Shan States, and work is well advanced. At Loikaw quarters for the Assistant Commandant were practically completed, and a rifle range provided. At Loilem two temporary barracks with quarters for Native officers were built to meet urgent requirements.

Permanent barracks for four companies were nearly completed at Magwe, and at Pyapôn construction was well advanced. Barracks to accommodate one company of Military Police were commenced at Pakôkku. On the Shore at Mandalay lines for 100 men were completed, and progress was made with the provision of accommodation for the Military Police at Maymyo.

The block-house at Mindat-Sakan was converted into a barrack for the Chin Police, and a defensible barrack was built at Hilong Sakan. At Myanaung, Lemyethna, Okpo and Urittaung, barracks were constructed for small detachments. A guard-house was built at Tharrawaddy, and barrack accommodation provided for the guard at Tawa.

The temporary barracks at Paletwa (Northern Arakan Hill Tracts) were converted into permanent buildings and various improvements and additions were carried out in the lines and barracks at Rangoon, Minbu, Bhamo, Gwa and Pantanaw: barracks were completed at Tapun, Gyobingauk, Zigôn and Kungyangôn, and were under construction at Einmè and Mônyo. The extension of the hospital at

Mogaung and the provision of accommodation for the Hospital Assistant were half finished. The Military Police Hospital and married quarters at Pegu were improved and a hospital ward was under construction at Prome. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Progress was made with the construction of a native officer's quarters at Rangoon and the native officers' quarters at Myitkyina were renovated and supplemented.

Rifle ranges were completed at Tharrawaddy, Shwebo and Myitkyina and half finished at Thatôn.

A block-house for 25 men was built at N'Pumbum, and the defences of the post at Warrabum were nearly completed. A semi-permanent outpost was built at Letmaseik; improvements were made to the outposts at Kamaing, Taunggyi and Kutkai. For similar work at Nalôn, a mule road 4½ miles long was constructed to facilitate the transport of materials. Materials were collected for the construction of the Battalion Commandant's quarters at Falam, Chin Hills, and the permanent re-construction of the subsidiary buildings of the Commandant's quarters at Mandalay Shore was completed; quarters for Assistant Commandants were built at Mandalay Shore, Sinlun and Katha.

166. First-class police stations at Ngazun and Toungoo were completed, and work on the stations at Pyapôn and Papun were in progress. Civil Police.

Police stations of the second class were completed at Gangaw, Natogyi and Myaung, and one with quarters for Civil and Military Police at Yedashe was nearly finished.

Third-class stations were completed at Kunzeik, Maliwun and Kyunpyathat, and those at Taukkyan and Shweli were nearing completion; additions and alterations were made to the stations at Pantanaw, and estimates were sanctioned for stations at Labutta, Kyaukkyi, Satthwa, Lamenu and Kindaunggyi.

Fourth-class stations were completed at Kumè, and under construction at Myomachaung and Lashio. Work was begun on the building of barracks, stables and stores for 14 mounted Indian constables at the Mogul Street (Rangoon) Guard, and a three storied brick barrack to accommodate married and single police and sergeants, and an European Inspector at the Pansodan Guard, Rangoon, was commenced. An additional water supply was provided for this Police station and for those at Alôn and Mingala, Rangoon.

Quarters were completed at Pyawbwè, Meiktila, Saw and Akyab, to provide accommodation at each station for the sanctioned strength. At Seikkyi, barracks were under construction for single and married men, the *thanna* being converted into quarters for a head constable. Quarters for 24 married men at Henzada were well forward. Work was in hand on semi-permanent quarters at Mogaung and Myitkyina, and on accommodation for the Town Police at Myingyan and Bassein.

Semi-permanent cottages for sergeants and men were built at Kawhmu, Thethit, Thôngwa, Tantabin, Tawlatè and Pyawbwè: permanent cottages at Labutta were nearly finished and were under construction at Pyapôn; the cottages at Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin were improved; a veterinary hospital for eight transport animals was built at Mogôk; and an estimate was sanctioned for the dismantlement and re-erection of the Police Magazine at Ma-ubin.

Quarters for the Commissioner of Police, Rangoon, were provided by the purchase of a house in the Cantonment. Quarters for the District Superintendent of Police were completed at Tavoy; and additions and alterations were made to the quarters at Myaungmya, Ma-ubin and Sandoway. Progress was made on the District Superintendent's and Assistant Superintendent's quarters at Tharrawaddy, and the Subdivisional Officer's quarters at Mônywa were nearly completed. Quarters were built for a European Inspector at Maymyo and those at Kyaukpyu were improved; a house for a Burman Inspector was under construction at Kungyangôn.

A house was purchased at Meiktila as an office for the District Superintendent of Police, and record racks were provided for the office at Paletwa.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Medical.

167. The estimate for the new General Hospital at Rangoon was sanctioned by the Secretary of State towards the close of the year. Materials were collected in large quantities at the site and the earthwork was started, nearly one and half lakhs of rupees being spent on the work up to the close of the year. The project provides a main building 700 feet long, and three storeys high, fitted with the latest modern improvements, to accommodate—in addition to operating theatres, anæsthetic and splint and bandage rooms, waiting and consulting rooms, and administrative offices—440 beds (103 for Europeans and 337 for natives): there will also be a pauper ward of 50 beds, a paying patients' block with accommodation for 28 beds, an out-patients' department, and residential quarters for the Superintendent, Resident Medical Officer, three Assistant Surgeons, ten Hospital Assistants, 44 nurses, six sisters, matron, steward, clerk and sergeant-in-charge, besides 127 menials. Other buildings will be the kitchen on the latest approved lines, the dairy, steam laundry and mortuary. The whole scheme, exclusive of Public Works Department charges for establishment and tools and plant, is estimated to cost about 27 lakhs of rupees.

The old hospital buildings, which were taken over from the Rangoon Municipality at the end of the year, were provided with new outhouses, and other minor improvements were effected. Two temporary sheds to accommodate ten plague patients were built on the site of the Contagious Diseases Hospital.

An infectious diseases' ward and a laundry were added to the Hospital at Maymyo.

The Civil Hospital at Kyaukpadaung was completed and certain improvements made to those at Tapun, Mogôk, Kindat, Paungbyin and Twante, which included, in the case of the last-named, the sinking of a six-inch tube well. Materials were collected and work started on third class hospitals with dispensaries at Taikkyi and Thôngwa. The erection of a Government ward for 40 lepers in St. John's Asylum, Mandalay, was begun, and a ward for 20 lepers with outhouses was sanctioned for Moulmein.

A contagious diseases ward for the Tharrawaddy Hospital was completed; also a vaccine depôt at Meiktila, and a dispensary as an addition to the Civil Hospital at Taunggyi. The mortuary for the General Hospital at Akyab was completed and materials collected for a moribund ward at Paletwa. A barrack to accommodate twelve female lunatics was built in the Asylum at Rangoon.

Quarters for the Civil Surgeon, Maymyo, were completed, the Civil Surgeon's quarters at Henzada re-roofed, and outbuildings provided for the Medical Officer at Paletwa.

Miscellaneous.

168. Work on the construction of the east and west wings of the New Public Offices was pushed forward vigorously through the year and the buildings are approaching completion; the expenditure during the year was about six lakhs of rupees.

Rangoon having been found to be unsuitable as a station for magnetic observation, a new observatory consisting of a self-recording house and an absolute house with quarters for observer, recorder and staff, was erected at Toungoo, and the instruments transferred to it.

Circuit-houses were under construction at Pegu, and completed at Kyaukpyu, and additions were made to the building at Meiktila. The out-buildings of the circuit-house at Bhamo were removed and re-erected with extensions on a new site.

Five more blocks of semi-detached quarters for clerks at Rangoon were practically completed. Quarters and an office for the Public Works Department Officers at Victoria Point and Kyaukpyu were finished, and work on an office and quarters for the Subdivisional Officer in charge of light-houses at Rangoon was well in hand. Quarters were constructed for Lower Subordinates at Maungdaw, Tharrawaddy and Pyapôn. Improvements were made in the clerks' quarters at Taunggyi and Maymyo. Quarters for the Public Works Office staff at Myitkyina and Bhamo were nearly finished.

Work on the removal and re-construction of the Public Works Department Divisional Office at Bassein and on the construction of quarters for an Upper

Subordinate at Zigôn, and for the Subdivisional Officer at Pyapôn, progressed. The office of the Executive Engineer, Tharrawaddy Division, was extended and the store-godown enlarged to provide additional record space. Permanent servants' quarters were added to the Subdivisional Officer's quarters, and estimates sanctioned for new quarters for a Sub-Overseer and Accountant at Myaungmya. Materials were collected for the Executive Engineer's quarters at Ngwelong, which in future is to be called Loimwe, and work was commenced on the housing of the Assistant at Loilem. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Two godowns in the Public Works Department store-yard at Rangoon were begun and materials purchased. A store-godown was built at Pegu; those at Mogôk were dismantled and new ones built on a new site. Work was commenced on godowns at Nyaunglebin and Zigôn, and similar buildings at Loimwe were completed.

The light-house yard at Rangoon was removed from the Public Works Department store-yard and re-erected on another site.

Communications.

169. The following statement summarises the progress made in the improvement of communications in the province:— Communications.

Roads.	Roads abandoned during the year.	New roads added during the year.	Total length in use at end of year.
1	2	3	4
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Metalled roads	24·69	72·77	1,516·79
Unmetalled roads	54·94	226·75	3,170·47
Other roads	56·21	139·85	2,799·40
Total ...	135·84	439·37	7,486·66

170. *Thazi-Taunggyi-Takaw road.*—The section connecting Taunggyi, the headquarters of the Southern Shan States, with Thazi on the Rangoon-Mandalay Railway was greatly improved at an expenditure of approximately two and quarter lakhs of rupees; a large number of masonry culverts and causeways were built and the road widened and improved. Good progress was made on the section from Taunggyi to Wampôn; all the earthwork, 49 bridges and eight causeways were completed. Work on the Wampôn-Takaw section was well advanced, many of the permanent bridges and culverts were built and others well in hand. The cart-road, which takes the place of the old mule-track, has been opened to traffic to within a few miles of Takaw on the Salween river. Metalled roads.

Toungoo-Thandaung road.—With a view to the adaptation of this road to tonga and motor traffic the gradients on the first section have been eased, the road widened, bridges rebuilt and the road-surface metalled. On the hill section all the cutting and blasting work was done and the construction of stone masonry bridges approaches completion. The sanctioned estimate for this section, which has a maximum gradient of one in 20, was Rs. 7,44,199. With the exception of the bridge across the Sittang it is expected that the road will shortly be open to traffic. Plans and estimate for this bridge are under preparation; the design proposed will consist of four central spans of 114 feet each and two land spans of 95 feet each between centres of piers.

Thabeikkyin-Mogôk road.—Extensive improvements to this road by re-alignment, regrading and metalling have been undertaken with a view to the development of the Ruby Mines district. The year's operations extended over three-fourths of the road. All water tables were replaced by culverts; new bridges

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

and alterations of old structures were pushed forward, and three miles of metal consolidation were completed.

The *Rangoon-Prome road* was equipped with new culverts and truss bridges, and the first 17½ miles of the first section of the Chinese Frontier Road were completed with metalling throughout.

Good progress was made on the minor lines of communication. So much of the Pegu-Tandawgyi road (16¾ miles) as traverses waste land was completed and on the road connecting Hlègu and Paunggyi (17 miles) only a few bridges and the metalling of the last few miles remain to be done. At Hlègu, the Pazundaung creek on the road to Rangoon was bridged, and the erection of bridges on the tap road from that town to the railway at Dabein and on the road connecting Tawa with Banbwegôn made good progress.

The *Hmawbi-Shweli road* (length 6½ miles) was improved for cart traffic, the consolidation of half a mile of metalling only remaining to complete the work. The feeder road from *Ela Railway Station to Lèwe* was nearly completed; the rebridging and metalling of the *Minbu-Salin* road was commenced, and the *Yenangyaung-Twingôn* road was completed.

The roads connecting Singôn with Kawlin and Wuntho were metalled, and a road to link the civil station at Lashio with the railway approaches completed. At Maymyo 15,000 lineal feet of roads were provided to serve actual or potential house sites.

The bridge over the Shwegu *chaung* on the *Tavoy-Sinbyubin* road was completed and opened to traffic.

Several culverts were built on the *Kyaukpadaung-Thanbaga* and the *Ywataung-Toungoo* roads, and the metalling of the *Tandaw-Yinmabin* road was nearly finished.

Work on the *Kadapana-Tada* road neared completion, the road having been banked and bridged and road metal collected; the road east of the railway at *Insein* was banked and bridged, consolidation only remaining to be done; the third and fourth sections of the *Henzada-Ngathainggyaung* road were re-metalled and two bridges on the *Naikban-Aingthabyu* road and five on the *Bassein-Shanywe* road were rebuilt; a new bridge over the Tapun *chaung* and new culverts on the *Zigôn-Paungdè* road were almost completed. The town roads of *Buthidaung*, *Minbya*, *Kyauktaw* and *Pauktaw* were metalled.

Unmetalled roads.

171. *Kawkareik-Myawadi road.*—Trade communication between Moulmein and the Siamese frontier was established by the completion of this road, which is 54½ miles in length.

Tavoy-Pagayè-Siam Frontier road.—Twenty-five miles of mule track between Pagayè and the frontier were improved for cart traffic. From Tavoy to Pagayè there is already a metalled cart-road.

Takaw-Kèngtūng Mule road.—This road was much improved as far as Tongta, beyond which work was in progress over 22 miles, the erection of bridges being well advanced.

Kèngtūng-Ngwelong cart-road.—Work on the hill section was nearly completed and temporary bridges were being erected.

Chinese Frontier road.—The second section of this road, from the 30th to the 51st mile, was completed as an unmetalled road.

Frontier Lateral road.—The suspension bridge, 185 feet span, over the Taiping river was completed and communication opened between the Military Police outposts north and south of the river.

The Sandoway-Kyeintali road, forty miles in length, was completed, and the trunk road from *Kyaukpyu to Ramree* was commenced, most of the earthwork and some of the bridging being completed. Fair progress was made with the construction of a bridle-path from *Minhla to Mônyo*. The first section of the *Saw-Seikpyu* road was practically completed and some work was done on the second section: improvements and reconstruction of bridges were carried out on the *Pakôkku-Kan* road, and improvements to the *Pakôkku-Yesagyo* road were commenced. The feeder road from *Kumè Road Railway Station to Ywawe* was completed: the railway feeder from *Meiktila to Yindaw* was practically completed,

and extra bridging on the *Nyaungyan-Pasôbyu* railway feeder finished. Work was in progress on improvements to the *Mônywa-Yè-u* and *Palè-Yinmabin* roads in the Lower Chindwin. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

The Pa-an-Hlaingbwè road and the first section of the *Tantabin-Bônmadi* road were almost completed. The *Yenyin-Kyetwethaung* district road was in progress, metal for the pathway having been collected and bridging finished. Work was nearly complete on the *Pènwègôn-Thanbayagôn* road and the *Pyuntaza-Kadôk* road was raised and equipped with new bridges. The construction of the Circular road at *Thandaung* was nearly completed.

Communication was established between the *Henzada-Ngathainggyaung* road and the railway at Yegyi. Work was advanced on a cart-road between Kangyidaung and Bègayet and on a fair-weather road from Teinmyôkkyi to Sèywa.

172. Bridle-paths now connect *Victoria Point with Champang village* and Kyaukpyu (north of Mergui) with Palaw, and a 12-foot path from *Bôkpyin* to *Yaunggwa* is practically completed. The bridle-path from *Papun to Kamamaung* was completed and good progress was made on similar paths to *Bilin* and *Dagwin*; improvements to the *Karen-Chaung-Nancho* road, an important route between Lower Burma and the Karen Hills, were also satisfactorily carried out during the year. Other Roads.

In the Chin Hills the road is practically through from Falam to the Tyao river and the diversion of the *Falam-Tiddim* road, to improve the gradient, is nearly finished. Work on the original estimate of the second section of the *Minbu-Salin-Sidôktaya* road was practically completed; a 4-foot track was made between *Mindat-Sakan* and *Hilong-Sakan*, and a survey was completed for a road from *Saw to Yawmyo*, along the foot of the Chin Hills, to connect existing roads.

The road from *Shwebo to Tabayin* was completed during the year, and the temporary bridges on the *Kamaing-Nanyazeik* road were all replaced by permanent bridges.

A fair-weather road was constructed from *Tanmanaing* to *Wabalaukthauk*, and work was commenced on the first and second sections of the bridle-path from the *Kaladan* to the *Mayu* river.

173. Under agreement with the Chinese local authorities, 15½ miles of a mule road were constructed from the *Kulikha* on the frontier (mile 51 of the Chinese Frontier road) to Man-Im in the Kangai State. A permanent bridge over the Nam-Sa-Ho (mile 61) was built and the road opened throughout. At the instance of the Chinese officials the Local Government undertook to improve the caravan track between Man-Im and the important market town of Lung Chang, 11 miles further on: the work was satisfactorily finished within the year. Undertakings in China and the Shan States.

The construction of an iron girder bridge across the Myitngè river at Hsipaw was also undertaken for the Hsipaw State, which provides the money for the work. The bridge will consist of three spans of 150 feet. Foundations for both abutments and one pier were put in during the working season, and the superstructure carried to ten feet above low water level.

174. Inspection or district bungalows were completed at Kawlin, Alawpum, Warabum, Sima, N'Krang, Kazu, Nyaunggôn, Minza, Telin, Pyapôn, Syriam, Thôngwa, Thethit, Sandoway, Minegwin, Kyaukkyi, Saukkôn, Kyeintali and Yegyi railway station. Staging accommodation was also provided along the entire length of the Thazi-Taunggyi and Taunggyi-Takaw roads, on the Yenyin-Kyetwethaung and Falam-Tyao river roads and at the town of Kèngtûng. Accommodation for Travellers.

Inspection Bungalows were also practically completed at Ananbaw and Lemyethna, and commenced at Sinlun, Mohnyin, Yawthit, and Kawa.

175. It has been decided to draw up regular programmes for the planting of trees along public roads, which has hitherto been done only partially and without system. Arboriculture.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

Improvement of towns.

176. The work of completing and metalling the Circular road at Taunggyi was put in hand and good progress made. A bund was constructed round the civil station of Pyapôn to keep out floods and station roads were constructed. The laying out of Thèdaw railway town was completed.

Jungle clearing progressed at Maymyo and Katha. Town roads, estimated to cost Rs. 8,000 and Rs. 10,000 respectively, were under construction at Thabyegan and Thôngwa. At Myitkyina, the construction of an embankment to protect the town from inundation by the Irrawaddy was completed, and materials were collected for the protection of the foreshore at Myinmu from erosion by the river.

Markets.

177. Permanent bazaars at Pyu and Kanyutkwin, on the Rangoon-Mandalay Railway line, were under construction at an estimated cost of Rs. 27,838 each. The site of the bazaar at Nyaunglebin was raised above flood level and masonry drains built round all the buildings, greatly improving its sanitary condition. A closed bazaar was built at Kyaunggôn and two bazaars at Pandaw were re-roofed with corrugated iron. Closed sheds were completed at Sagagyi and Dèdayè and an open shed at Yelègale. Additions and improvements were made to the bazaar at Twante, an approach road constructed to the bazaar at Kyauktan and half-inch teak ceilings provided for the bazaars at Thôngwa and Kayan.

Water-supply.

178. Works connected with municipal improvement are excluded from this paragraph. They are described in Chapter III, and Cantonment schemes are referred to in paragraph 102 of the same chapter.

The water-supply of Maymyo called for special consideration in view of the rapid increase in population. An impounding dam in one of the two valleys from which the supply is drawn was approved and sanctioned: the reservoir, when full, will hold a year's supply: it was nearing completion at the end of the year. The distributary pipe system in the station was considerably extended. A masonry weir and a distributing reservoir in connection with a similar project at Mogôk were completed, and pipes for the main and distributary system were purchased.

The scheme for Lashio is designed with an impounding dam and suitable head-works across a small perennial stream. The head-works were nearly finished and the distributary pipes purchased during the year.

Most of the pipes for the Falam water-supply scheme have been received and carried to the site.

As a measure preliminary to the provision of a water-supply for Loimwe, the new headquarters of the Assistant Political Officer and of the Military Police hitherto stationed at Kèngtūng, an estimate was sanctioned to fence in the catchment area of the proposed reservoir to guard against contamination, and work was put in hand: work was also started on a puddle trench along the site of the proposed dam.

Railways.

Length of line.

179. The length of line open to all description of traffic on the 31st March 1905 was 1,340·15 as compared with 1,336·97 miles open at the end of the previous year. The increase is due to the opening of suburban lines at Bassein.

Lines projected or in progress.

180. The construction of a line of Railway from Pegu to Martaban opposite Moulmein, 121·27 miles in length, was started during the year. The line involves bridges over the Pegu and Sittang rivers, the materials for which are being obtained from England. A railway from Henzada to Kyangin (65·66 miles) was also begun during the year. Land was acquired and earth-work pushed forward on both lines. The survey of the projected line from Prome to Taungup, 113·51 miles, connecting Arakan with Rangoon, was completed during the year and the following surveys were in progress:—

(*a*) Detailed survey from Pegu to Syriam, 67 miles.

(*b*) Detailed survey of a loop line east of the Daga river between Neikban and Bègayet, 66 miles.

(*c*) Detailed survey of a line of railway from Pyinmana to Magwe as a possible famine relief work, 100 miles. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

181. The subsidence of the line, owing to heavy rainfall, caused frequent interruptions on the Hsipaw-Lashio Branch from June to August, and traffic was suspended between Se-en and Lashio from the 14th August till the 1st December. On the 5th October floods breached the line between Shweda and Pyawbwè. The damage was repaired in two days. Damage to the line.

182. Only two fatal accidents occurred during the year. One was caused by the derailment of an engine and wagons at Myohaung, which resulted in the death of the driver. The other was due to a fall of earth during the repair of a cutting on the Lashio Branch, by which two coolies were killed. There were four collisions, which caused damage to rolling-stock to the value of Rs. 37,000. Accidents.

183. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system (open line) during 1904-05 was Rs. 22,33,902. This raises the total capital outlay since commencement to Rs. 13,38,37,089. Capital transactions.

184. The gross earnings of the year compared with those of 1903-04 were :— Revenue Transaction.

During 1904-05	1,52,28,716
During 1903-04	1,41,21,600
or a net increase of	11,07,116

The working expenses compare as under :—

During 1904-05	93,33,909
During 1903-04	89,93,804
or a net increase of	3,40,105

The net earnings were as under :—

During 1904-05	53,94,807
During 1903-04	51,27,795
or a net increase of	7,67,011

185. The following comparison shows the results of working the open line :— Traffic and working.

	1903-04.	1904-05.
1	2	3
Train mileage	4,421,034	4 548,268
Average earnings per mile per week ... ... Rs.	203 · 12	218 · 53
Average earnings per train mile ... ... »	3 · 19	3 · 35
Average expenses per train mile ... ... »	2 · 03	2 · 05
Ratio of expenses to earnings	63·69 per cent.	61·29 per cent.
Net receipts on capital outlay	3·94 per cent.	4·30 per cent.

186. Besides the construction of the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin Railways, on which Rs. 26,58,448 and Rs. 5,58,832 respectively were expended, various improvements were effected on the open line. The track from Prome to Toungoo was relaid with 50-lb. steel rails, and the lines between Insein and Hlawga and Pazundaung and Thingangyun were doubled. The Letpadan station yard was remodelled and the railway from Letpadan to Bassein fenced throughout. Eighteen passenger and twenty-four goods engines were purchased. Miscellaneous Improvements.

Tramways.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Tramways.

187. The steam tramway from Thatôn to Duyinzeik, 7·76 miles in length, connecting Thatôn with the river-landing for launches of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, was again successfully worked by that Company. One passenger train each way daily connects with the Company's launches, but the bulk of the receipts, which amounted to Rs. 49,588 or nearly Rs. 5,000 more than in the previous year, was derived from the carriage of freight. The tramway is owned by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company and no subsidy is now paid. In view of the approaching opening of the Pegu-Martaban railway, no extensions have been undertaken.

There was no change in the running of the steam tramways of Rangoon. A total of 247,591 miles was covered in the year and 3,499,930 passengers were carried. The total earnings amounted to Rs. 2,71,559. These figures show a substantial increase over those of the previous year. The line is in process of electrification, which is expected to be completed in two years.

The new electric tramways in Mandalay were opened during the month of July 1904 and were immediately successful. The line was not completely opened until the 31st of July 1904, but the passenger traffic for the year ending 31st July 1905 amounted to a total of 2,944,452 persons carried. No accidents to passengers have taken place and only two to pedestrians. The length of open line is six miles and no extensions of this system are at present contemplated. A project is now on foot to connect the town of Madaya and the Obo quarter of Mandalay by a steam tramway to be laid along the bund of the Shwetachaung, 13 miles in length.

Canals (Navigation and Irrigation).

General.

188. The aggregate capital expenditure, direct and indirect, on irrigation was Rs. 12,05,766. The total area irrigated by canals and protected by embankments was 961,646 acres as against 921,139 in the previous year. The net revenue receipts amounted to Rs. 12,43,127 but irrigation works were worked at a loss and the profit was due to embankments.

Major Works—Imperial.

Mandalay canal. Expenditure and revenue.

189. The capital charges incurred amounted to Rs. 1,62,360. The working expenses were Rs. 77,690 and the revenue receipts exceeded this sum by Rs. 12,221. The receipts would have been much larger but for delay in collection. The actual assessments of water-rate and land revenue for the year 1904-05 were Rs. 2,09,098 and Rs. 19,075 respectively as compared with Rs. 78,568 and Rs. 13,748 in the previous year.

Area irrigated.

190. The total area irrigated was 42,983 acres, of which 985 acres were twice cropped; 3,718 acres of land were cleared and brought under cultivation during the year.

General

191. The length of the main canal is 39 miles, and of its distributary system 103 miles. With the exception of a few outlets, heads and water courses on two distributaries, the distributary system is now complete and in working order. During the year the syphon under the Patheingyi distributary for the diversion of an old drainage channel was completed, and some 15 lakhs of earthwork were executed in improving the drainage channel. The Yangindaung and Patheingyi distributary systems were completed. A timber bridge, 70 feet in length with four spans, was erected on the main line The dispensary and quarters for the Hospital Assistant at Lamaing, which were destroyed by fire in June, were rebuilt.

Maintenance and repairs.

192. The canal and distributaries were kept in repair throughout the year and an improvement was effected by the planting of trees along the right bank of the main canal for a distance of 27 miles.

193. A sum of Rs. 8,67,337 was expended during the year. The total mileage of channel completed on the main line was 28·7, and on the Branches 47·3. Work on seven distributaries from the main canal and one from the Môksogyôn branch, and on the remodelling of the Hladaw tank in connection with the Hladaw branch is in hand: 87·7 miles of distributaries, out of a total length of 128·9 miles sanctioned, were completed. Surveys for the alignment of the remaining distributaries were completed with the exception of two from the Hladaw branch, for which surveys are in progress. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Shwebo Canal. General.

194. The pier and abutments for the undersluices were completed to their full height of 48 feet. The four Stoney's gates, 40 feet span, were erected, and the overhead bridge and lifting gear were completed. Head Works.

The portion of the weir, 322 feet in length, which is designed for the Shwebo canal, was completed with the exception of the crest wall and a portion of the stone floor immediately below the wall.

195. The Main canal was completed with the exception of excavation of 20 feet near the head works, and pitching in bed and side slopes below the head regulator. Four distributaries were practically completed, and the remaining three half finished. Main Canal.

196. Two inspection bungalows begun in the previous year were completed and two others built. Residential quarters for the Assistant Engineer, second sub-division, at Shwebo, were also completed. Buildings.

197. The Môksogyôn branch was practically completed with the exception of one syphon, three superpassages, three bridges, and the regrading of one section. The Hladaw branch was completed during the year and the construction of a feeder channel to the Hladaw tank in connection with the branch canal approached completion. Branches.

198. The estimate for this project, amounting to Rs. 33,91,764, was submitted for the sanction of the Secretary of State, but as the head works had to be designed in connection with the head works of the Shwebo canal, which takes off from the left bank of the Mu river immediately opposite the starting point of the new system, and as the Shwebo canal head works had arrived at an advanced stage towards completion, the approval of the Government of India was obtained to the head works being put in hand before the project received final sanction. Ye-u canal.

199. The portion of the weir designed for the Ye-u canal, *viz.*, 133 feet, was finished, with the exception of the brick floor and crest wall with shutters. All wells for the divide wall, and two piers of the undersluices, have been sunk, and the ironwork for the two Stoney's gates, 30-feet span, have been ordered from England. Head Works.

200. In connection with this system, on which Rs. 1,76,069 were spent during the year, lines of cross sections have been run and levelled across the irrigable tract in order to obtain an accurate contour map of the tract. On the Northern Main canal two-thirds of the area has been contoured, and surveys for the area under the Southern Main canal have been started. Mon Canal. General.

Residential quarters for the Executive Engineer at Minbu, commenced at the end of the previous year, were completed.

201. No actual construction was undertaken, but materials were collected at site. Quarters and office for the Assistant Engineer in charge were practically completed, and an inspection bungalow was about half finished. Head Works.

202. The final alignment of the first 15 miles of both the Northern and Southern Main canals was completed and earthwork excavation was begun on the former. The manufacture of bricks for drainage crossings has been commenced, and the acquisition of land is nearly complete on the portion aligned. Progress of canals.

IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Minor Works—Provincial.

General.

203. The working expenses of the minor irrigation systems, for which no capital accounts are maintained, amounted to Rs. 10,49,631, and exceeded the revenue derived from them by Rs. 12,585. Navigation works also resulted in a loss, the expenses being Rs. 1,50,648 against receipts amounting to Rs. 1,26,026. On the other hand, embankments which were maintained at a total cost of Rs. 3,55,698, produced a revenue of Rs. 16,23,811.

Kyaukse district.

204. The distributary systems of the Nwadet canal were remodelled. Three distributaries were completed during the year and a fourth (Kalainggyaw) was nearly finished. Surveys for the remodelling of the North Ngapyaung canal were in progress. On the Zedaw system a combined head regulator for the canal and the escape was completed.

The Kathaung distributary (7 miles) of the Nathlwè canal, with masonry works and timber bridges, was nearly completed.

Meiktila district.

205. Four drainage crossings were found to be necessary on the new Ôkpò distributary from the Meiktila lake. Of these, three were carried through, as also was a fall on the escape channel. On the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank system the seven distributaries, commenced in the previous year, were finished.

Myingyan district.

206. The Kama tank, which was extensively breached in September 1903, was thoroughly overhauled and repaired.

Minbú district.

207. Nearly the whole of the remodelling of distributaries from the Man canal was carried out during the working season.

Pegu-Sittang canal.

208. The construction of the Minywa lock was abandoned in October 1904, the decision being arrived at owing to changes in the set of the Sittang river, which might endanger the safety of the lock.

The Sinchidaing regulator was completed and materials were collected and work started on a dry stone wall of dressed laterite to protect the tow-path of the canal for a length of 1½ miles. The masonry walls of the Tawa lock were raised 3 feet, and new flood gates were fitted.

Sittang-Kyaikto canal.

209. Quarters for the toll-collector at the Kadôk Lock, Kyaikto, were completed.

Sittang embankment.

210. The extension of the southern end of the Sittang embankment up to the Athwe *chaung* was almost completed, thus bringing a considerable area of good paddy land under cultivation.

Irrawaddy river.

211. Retirements of the Irrawaddy embankment, Henzada section, from miles 13-6 to 15-6, and in the 36th and 37th miles, were completed.

The improvement of the navigation of the Panhlaing creek by an artificial cut near Yandoon was carried out and the new cutting is now being used for navigation.

Minor rivers.

212. The navigation of the Myittha and Yu rivers by country boats was made easier by the improvement of the channels. Rocks were blasted and snags removed; and a tow-path was constructed at the Chaungyin and Kyaukkôn rapids on the Myittha.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1905.

Excise Administration Report for the year ending the 31st March 1905.

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Twelfth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps and VIII—Income-Tax.

(*a*).—*Imperial Revenue and Finance.*

Gross Revenues.

213. The following statement exhibits the gross receipts and expenditure of the years 1903-04 and 1904-05 distributed between Imperial, Provincial, Incorporated Local, Excluded Local and Municipal Funds. The transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Fund are included, though these funds do not bank with Government:—

Funds.	1903-04.		1904-05.	
	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Imperial	5,13,58,902	1,34,04,223	5,55,85,945	1,41,57,339
Provincial	3,70,77,811	3,91,09,566	3,85,97,264	4,01,89,972
Incorporated Local ...	27,19,103	26,03,200	27,95,759	27,74,142
Excluded Local	31,97,590	30,44,213	38,23,131	32,04,372
Municipalities	90,57,484	1,00,28,380	74,38,015	80,15,769
Total ...	10,34,10,890	6,81,89,582	10,82,40,114	6,83,41,594

The deficits in the provincial account, which were designedly incurred by expenditure on public works, were met from the very large balance to the credit of the Province at the commencement of the Settlement in 1902-03. Certain items of revenue and expenditure are shared by Imperial and Provincial funds in fixed proportions. In the following paragraphs the revenue figures represent the total receipts, regardless of this distribution.

Land Revenue.

214. The area under assessment increased by some 180,000 acres in Lower Burma and 260,000 acres in Upper Burma, and the corresponding enhancement of the land revenue collections (excluding water-rate) was Rs. 14,73,939. The expansion of the assessed area, which was relatively less considerable than that of the previous year, was generally the result of the expiry of exemption periods

Ordinary revenue,

V.—Revenue and Finance.

conceded to grant holders, the clearing of waste land by squatters, and the influx of cultivators to Lower Burma after the favourable season of 1903-04. One or more of these causes were at work in the Pegu, Pyapôn, Myaungmya, Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin districts, which contributed extensions of seventeen to fifty-five thousand acres, while in Bassein cultivators utilised annually submerged land for the cultivation of a dry-weather crop. Tavoy and Akyab returned smaller areas, but the decrease in the latter was due to erroneous figures in the previous year. In Upper Burma the most remarkable increase was returned from the Lower Chindwin, where the introduction of a summary settlement brought under assessment an area of 205,646 acres. In the Upper Chindwin an apparent increase of 28,232 acres represents the substitution of acre rates for tithe in a part of the district. Cultivation expanded by 29,482 acres in Meiktila and 19,904 acres in Minbu under the influence of a favourable season and improved irrigation, and an increase of 14,340 acres in Myingyan is also to be attributed to the rainfall. On the other hand, cultivation contracted in the Yamèthin subdivision for want of rain, and in Sagaing the October rains spoiled much of the paddy which the excellence of the early monsoon had induced cultivators to substitute for dry-crops. In Pakôkku the more compact and valuable island crops were popular, and a decrease of 13,757 acres in the assessed area was accompanied by an enhancement of the revenue demand.

The land revenue demand for the Province was Rs. 2,33,43,843, as against Rs. 2,18,15,715 in the year 1903-04. Nearly half of the increase, which amounted to Rs. 15,28,128, occurred in the three districts of Myaungmya, Akyab and Pyapôn, where new rates came into force, their coincidence with a bad season in Akyab causing some temporary hardship. Elsewhere the growth of the revenue demand responded to the extension of cultivation, or, as in Tavoy, took place in spite of a reduction in the assessed area. Thayetmyo, where there was a partial failure of the sessamum crop, and Rangoon Town were the only districts in the Lower Province which shewed an actual falling off in the demand. In Mandalay the assessment of full rates in the canal tract on land which had received partial remission in the previous year and the extension of the irrigation system operated with a good rainfall in the unirrigated tract to augment the demand by one and a half lakhs. In Katha, an enhancement of Rs. 31,238 was due to the extension of survey. In other districts the demand varied with the expansion or contraction of the area assessed, or, as in Yamèthin, where crops were successfully raised in an indifferent season on the more highly taxed lands, was independent of it. The enhancement of the demand which should have followed the partial introduction of supplementary survey in the Upper Chindwin was postponed by delay in the field work, and in Myitkyina heavy rain on the lowlying *taungyas* counteracted the effect produced by the assessment of land irrigated by the Namlôn weir.

Remissions of Land Revenue.

215. Remissions were nearly Rs. 30,000 in excess of the previous year. In Amherst, Thatôn and Hanthawaddy, where they amounted to Rs. 82,506, Rs. 56,395 and Rs. 39,540, respectively, it was found necessary to employ special officers to deal with the numerous applications which were made on account of destruction by floods. Increases of Rs. 13,000 and Rs. 8,000 in Henzada and Pegu were due to the same cause, and the collapse of an embankment caused disaster in Ma-ubin, where, however, remissions on account of floods were Rs. 30,000 less than in the previous year. The comparative immunity of Tharrawaddy from this form of calamity is indicated by a fall of about the same amount. The greater part of the remissions in Myaungmya represented irrecoverable revenue due from unsuccessful cultivators who absconded. In Upper Burma, considerable remissions were granted only in the Mandalay and Kyauksè districts, where the test of the maturity of a crop is lower than in the dry zone, and applications for remission therefore more frequent. There was an increase in the amount remitted in Mandalay, and a decrease from Rs. 11,366 to Rs. 3,848 in Kyauksè is ascribed to the failure of cultivators to realise in time that a harvest which had promised exceptionally well was to disappoint them. The remissions included, and in some districts were entirely accounted for by, the amounts struck off on account of erroneous assessment.

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Water-rate.

216. In all but four districts water-rate, where collected, has been amalgamated with land revenue, and the increase from Rs. 27,301 to Rs. 32,159 in the year's assessments was due to the comparatively abundant rainfall in Shwebo and Sagaing where small rain-fed tanks are maintained by Government.

Capitation-tax.

217. The increase of the population of Lower Burma was reflected in the growth of revenue from the capitation or poll tax, which was assessed on 34,069 more persons and involved a demand of Rs. 1,19,377 more than in the previous year. The increase was common to every district but two, and was most noticeable in Myaungmya, where the number of assessees rose by nearly 10,000, and the demand by Rs. 15,100, and in the Pyapôn district, where the high proportion borne by the enhanced demand (Rs. 27,088) to the growth in the number of taxpayers (6,020) indicated rather an improvement in the work of the assessing agency than (as in Myaungmya) an addition to the floating population. In Hanthawaddy, an increase in the demand of nearly Rs. 10,000 was due to the more careful assessment of migratory coolies, and in Toungoo and Bassein the intimate connection which should subsist between population and revenue was illustrated by enhancements of Rs. 16,075 and Rs. 8,877, respectively. By the same test the increase in Henzada (Rs. 479) appears inadequate.

Outstandings amounted to Rs. 169 and remissions to Rs. 48,044. There was an increase of 6,578 in the number of persons shewn as exempted on account of poverty and old age, and it is believed that headmen used their powers both liberally and correctly.

Thathameda.

218. A sudden rise of 20,278 in the number of households assessed to *thathameda* was in striking contrast to the gradual increases of the previous two years (1,301 and 528, respectively), and is to be attributed to the effect of a favourable season in Upper Burma on the annual exodus to the delta. Every district except three contributed to the increase, which, in Myingyan, amounted to 3,536. The resultant revenue demand rose by more than two-and-half lakhs to Rs. 48,98,147, an increase of about Rs. 1,17,000 taking place in Shwebo alone. The introduction of a settlement reduced the household rates in the Chindwin districts, and the demand fell by Rs. 1,06,069, but this was more than counterbalanced by the return to normal rates in Pakôkku and Magwe, where in the previous year a reduction had been made in consequence of the failure of the early rains.

Remissions were not noticeably larger than in 1903-04, but the outstandings (Rs 2,510) were swollen by the impossibility of collecting a portion of the Kachin tribute in time. The principles on which the distribution of the tax should be made by the village assessors were made more widely known, but the tendency to treat it as a fixed poll-tax was still observed in districts where the rate had been reduced at settlement. There was also some indication that the increase in the number of households exempted (3,080) was due to a misapprehension of the conditions which justify exemption.

Fishery Revenue.

219. The decline which had been observed in the revenue from net license fees during the previous two years was checked, and the fees contributed about Rs. 7,000 towards a total increase of Rs. 71,643 in the revenue demand from fisheries. Considerable enhancements in the demand of fees for net licenses in Myaungmya and Mergui were the result of better supervision on the part of district officers, and the lack of it caused a falling off in Bassein and Akyab. The number of pump licenses for pearling in the Mergui district was larger than in the previous year, and produced an enhancement of Rs. 2,800 in the revenue, but the price of mother-of-pearl was abnormally low, and the right to collect it and its local substitutes without apparatus was sold for Rs. 8,000 less than in 1903-04.

Keen competition at the auctions, which was not in every case justified by the success of the operations, raised the demand for leased fisheries by Rs. 17,000 in Mandalay and Rs. 18,000 in Tharrawaddy and Bassein. In the last named district a newly divided fishery realised a false price, and it had to be resold at a loss of over Rs. 17,000. The season in the delta was not good and one-and-a-half per cent. of the demand, which for the whole Province was

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Rs. 64,482 in excess of the previous year, was outstanding at the end of the year, while remissions, mainly owing to failures in Bassein and Mandalay, amounted to Rs. 29,670. Advances were made to the fishermen on the coast estuaries, but they were not put to any practical use and have proved very difficult to recover.

Land rate and other miscellaneous land revenue.

220. The area assessed to land rate in lieu of capitation-tax, in the seven towns of Lower Burma in which this rate is levied, rose from 7,529 to 7,652 acres and the revenue demand from Rs. 88,317 to Rs. 92,661. The only decrease (15 acres) occurred in Prome and was due to the resumption of land for default. Provided the tax is assessed with uniform strictness, the demand varies with the area covered with buildings. It was resolved during the year to introduce a large scale survey in many of the larger towns of the Province. Titles will be recorded and the maps maintained by a supplementary survey staff. This step was taken in view of the confusion of urban tenures and of the impossibility of identifying building leases on the 16-inch maps. The increase from Rs. 66,191 to Rs. 77,420 in the revenue derived from town land rents was partly due to the stricter enquiries on the result of which this scheme was based, but over Rs. 8,000 of the enhanced revenue came from Mandalay and probably included rents which should have appeared in the accounts of the previous year.

The extension of the operations of the Burma Oil Company in the Magwe and Myingyan districts enhanced the royalty on petroleum by four lakhs and in the Ruby Mines district 71 per cent. of the loss of Rs. 1,78,243 on the royalties derived from the mines in the previous year was recovered. These receipts with the royalties on jade and amber realised Rs. 20,02,521 as against Rs. 14,69,324 in 1903-04, while other minerals produced a revenue of Rs. 47,583 as against Rs. 39,815 in the previous year.

The strict enforcement of the Village Act in Prome, Thatôn and Bassein raised the receipts under the village enactments from Rs. 1,83,820 to Rs. 2,35,156.

The temporary suspension of the grant system in the Pegu division and the discouragement of applicants by floods were largely responsible for a decline of Rs. 58,945 in the receipts of survey fees for *pottas*.

Canal Revenue (Navigation and Irrigation).

Canal revenue.

221. The direct receipts from major irrigation works amounted to Rs. 70,695 as against Rs. 92,796 in the previous year, but this does not include the increase of land revenue attributable to them. The receipts from navigation works were Rs. 1,26,026.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

222. The gross receipts from import duties at the ports of Burma increased from Rs. 55,93,097 to Rs. 60,94,348 and those from export duties from Rs. 87,62,302 to Rs. 98,44,358. The Sea-borne Trade of the year attained a volume hitherto unprecedented, the imports of cotton goods and the exports of rice being chiefly responsible for the growth of customs revenue.

Opium.

223. The gross receipts from opium rose from Rs 45,50,182 to Rs. 51,69,309. A decline of over a lakh in the receipts from license fees was the result of the extension to Upper Burma of the system of vend which has been in force in the Lower Province since 1902, but the simultaneous enhancement of the wholesale price of excise opium from Rs. 33 to Rs. 60, with higher or lower prices in certain shops, produced an increased revenue of about Rs. 80,000, while the financial success of the innovation may be anticipated from the fact that in Lower Burma the receipts from duty on excise and foreign opium rose from Rs. 42,92,387 to Rs. 50,11,715 as the system developed. Part of this increase is to be attributed to the enhanced price at which opium was issued from the treasury in some districts, but though, towards the end of 1904, retail sales were restricted to an amount calculated on the consumer's means or capacity of consumption, the issues of opium to the shops in Lower Burma (excluding Thayetmyo) exceeded by 8,218 seers the quantity

issued in the previous year, and in only one district (Tavoy) was less opium drawn from the Treasury in consequence of the restriction. The abolition of the auction system was accompanied by an increase of eight in the number of shops in Upper Burma, where the opium habit is practically confined to non-Burmans. The restrictions on individual purchases were designed to suppress the hawking of illicit opium which had become very prevalent under the new system, and the increasing use of cocaine necessitated the issue of a notification declaring it to be an intoxicating drug and prohibiting its possession except for medical purposes. Proposals for the better regulation of the sale and possession of morphia were also under consideration. It may be assumed that the increased quantities of Government opium sold through the shops indicate a partial suppression of smuggling, but several large seizures were made in Bhamo, Myitkyina, Rangoon and Thatôn, and proposals for the strengthening of the preventive staff and for the improvement of the controlling agency have been under consideration.

Salt.

224. The system of direct taxation on locally manufactured salt, which had been in operation in the Bassein, Hanthawaddy and Myaungmya districts, was extended during the year to Tavoy and Mergui, and is to be enforced in Amherst and Kyaukpyu, the only remaining districts where the industry is pursued on a large scale. The local output of salt declined from 705,606 to 582,148 maunds, owing partly to the slowness of the boilers to adapt themselves to the new system in Tavoy, and partly to the discontent caused by the working of it in Bassein. It is thought, however, that bad prices were a contributing cause of the discontent in Bassein, and steps are being taken to enquire into real causes of complaint. In the adjoining district of Myaungmya the boilers worked contentedly under the new system, which, among other advantages, is financially sound, the net revenue after deducting the cost of the establishment amounting, except in Tavoy, to a considerably larger sum than that which would have been realised under the discarded system of composition duties.

Duty was paid on 1,349,400 maunds of imported salt or about 75,000 maunds more than in the previous year. The competition between the English and German product continued keen, the latter retaining a lead in the market; both, however, were replaced to some extent by Aden salt. In Rangoon, prices fluctuated remarkably, English salt falling from Rs. 80 to Rs. 58 and rising again to Rs. 85. The average price of imported salt was Rs. 75 as against Rs. 67-8-0 for the local product, and it formed 70 per cent. of the total consumption as against 68 per cent. in the previous year. Away from the river and railway routes to Mandalay the local salt boilers disposed of their produce without difficulty, but foreign salt ruled the markets on the main lines of communication and monopolised the frontier trade with the Shan States and the North. There was a heavy fall in the coasting trade in the locally manufactured salt, which was due partly to the smaller output and partly to the low prices which prevailed in Rangoon during a great part of the year.

Excise.

225. Owing to a change in the date of termination of excise licenses from the 31st March to 30th April, which was effected for accounts purposes, the license fees for 13 months were included in the annual report of the Department. The instalment system was at the same time modified to suit small capitalists. Foreign liquor licenses were withdrawn from all but the larger towns, the demand elsewhere being provided for by a modification of the licenses at Railway refreshment rooms. The rules and license forms were further modified with a view to the exercise of a closer supervision over manufacture and sale, and instructions regarding the location of shop sites were prepared.

Allowing two lakhs of rupees for the longer period covered by liquor licenses, the receipts from license fees and duty on liquor increased by over $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, the gross revenue being Rs. 38,14,153. In pursuance of the policy of restricting the number of licenses for the sale of imported liquor, 29 of these shops were closed, but the receipts from license fees were Rs. 57,139 in excess of the previous year. Rangoon contributed nearly one-half of the total (Rs. 12,05,234), and the only considerable decreases were attributable to a combination of bidders in the

V.—Revenue and Finance.

Amherst district and the withdrawal of licenses from five shops in Tharrawaddy. The duty paid on spirits manufactured in India after European methods declined by half a lakh to Rs. 2,12,389. It was affected by the comparative popularity of Java rum and the reduction in the number of shops for its sale, as well as by defective control over illicit distillation in the Thatôn district, which has since been remedied.

License fees for the manufacture and vend of country spirits and country fermented liquor (including *tari*) realised Rs. 23,27,232 as against Rs. 18,71,394 in 1903-04. The actual increase on a period of 12 months may be calculated at three quarters of the difference. The most remarkable advance occurred in the fees for the manufacture and sale of country spirits, which were 72 per cent. in excess of the previous year. The receipts increased in every district except one, and were affected to the extent of Rs. 63,074 by the establishment of five new outstills in Thatôn to check illicit trade.

The revenue from country fermented liquors other than *tari* shewed an advance of nearly three lakhs and was practically all obtained from the Pegu and Irrawaddy divisions. There were indications that the suppression of foreign liquor shops, which largely contributed to this result, has been pushed too far. License fees for *tari* realised Rs. 5,72,983, or half a lakh more than in the previous year, though the number of shops was reduced by 110 and a combination of bidders in Moulmein depressed the receipts at auction. There were considerable seizures of ganja during the year. The hemp plant is indigenous in the hills and there is a large demand for it amongst natives of India, though there is no indication that the taste has spread to the Burmans.

Stamps.

226. The gross receipts from stamps rose from Rs. 29,41,940 to Rs. 33,12,820 and the charges from Rs. 97,135 to Rs. 1,05,316. A sum of Rs. 5,404 was debited to general supervision, and the cost of stamps supplied from the central depôt was Rs. 62,023, or more than twice as much as in the previous year. The growth of expenditure was largely due to the establishment of a central depôt in Rangoon for the supply of stamps to Burma and the Andamans. The receipts on account of judicial stamps amounted to 56·8 per cent. of the total stamp revenue, and were nearly Rs. 2,20,000 in advance of the previous year. A rise of Rs. 54,836 in Rangoon is attributable to the effect of land speculation on the value of civil suits, and elsewhere litigation grew with increasing prosperity. The land boom in Rangoon and its neighbourhood was not the only, though it was the predominating, factor in the growth of revenue from non-judicial stamps from Rs. 12,67,310 to Rs. 14,09,728. While the chief city accounted for an increase of nearly Rs. 1,20,000, the general expansion of cultivation enhanced the stamp revenue in nearly every district. The use of impressed labels or special adhesive stamps in the chief towns of the province extended in a remarkable manner. The value of receipt stamps sold was somewhat less than in the previous year. The abuse of them should be checked by the newly extended provisions of the Transfer of Property Act. The commercial development of Rangoon led to an increase in the sale of share transfer stamps and cheque and receipt forms, and over Rs. 20,000 was paid as duty on loans by the Rangoon Port Trust and Municipality. The amount of duty and penalty realised by Courts and Collectors shewed a considerable falling off, and prosecutions for breaches of the stamp law were neither so numerous nor so successful as in the previous year, when excessive zeal was shown in the Pakkôku district.

Assessed taxes.

227. The final demand of income-tax amounted to Rs. 11,27,610, or one and three-quarter lakhs more than in the previous year, and all but Rs. 3,000 was collected. The operation of the Act was extended to ten more towns and the number of assessees increased by 876 to 12,307. The number of objections to the Collector was greater, especially in Rangoon, where the final demand was Rs. 60,000 less than the original assessment, and in the Pegu subdivision, but only 174 processes were issued. Including recoveries by the Accountant-General and the Burma Railways Company the total collections of the tax rose from Rs. 11,86,971 to Rs. 13,67,105, the nett collections from Rs. 11,80,620 to Rs. 13,63,673 and the incidence of the

tax from Rs. 79-8-0 to Rs. 88-3-0 per head. The number of Government servants and pensioners who were assessed was smaller than in the previous year, but salaries in excess of Rs. 2,000 were more numerous, and the yield of the tax imposed both on this class and on the servants of local authorities shewed an increase. The employés of commercial firms shared in their prosperity and were taxed proportionately. Of the 56 companies, the tax on whose profits produced Rs. 2,67,260, forty-eight, or nine more than in the previous year, carried on business in Rangoon, and that town accounted for all but about Rs. 5,000 of the tax under this head. Interest on securities was slightly less productive, but there was a large increase in the tax levied on incomes from other sources, the final demand being Rs. 6,48,268 as against Rs. 5,57,532 in 1903-04. Every district except Mergui shared in the advance. In Rangoon the enhancement was as much as Rs. 49,132 and in other districts much of the increase was levied from the money lenders. The diversion of the Shan States trade to Hsipaw, which followed the opening of the railway to Lashio, together with the burning of the Zegyo bazaar and the failure of a prominent Chinese merchant, had produced serious commercial depression in Mandalay. The development of the canal system arrested the decline in prosperity and it is hoped that the activity of mining companies may help to improve the situation.

228. The total forest revenue for the year reached a total of Rs. 1,09,61,494. The following statement gives the details and the corresponding figures of the previous year:— Forests.

Particulars.	1903-04.	1904-05.	Increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency.	43,29,281	59,67,801	+16,38,520
II.—Timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers or purchasers.	34,81,781	42,42,892	+7,61,111
III.—Drift and waif wood and confiscated forest produce.	2,40,774	2,84,222	+43,448
IV.—Revenue from forests not managed by Government.	3,63,377	3,24,545	—38,832
V.—Miscellaneous	1,04,191	1,42,034	+37,843
Total ...	85,19,404	1,09,61,494	24,42,090

The financial results of the year's operations were as follows:—

Circle.	Receipts.	Charges.	Surplus.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Pegu	52,20,017	12,91,972	39,28,045
Tenasserim	19,76,797	7,73,436	12,03,361
Northern	19,63,263	8,37,828	11,25,435
Southern	18,01,417	6,11,761	11,89,656
Total ...	1,09,61,494	35,14,997	74,46,497

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Not only were the gross receipts 24 lakhs in excess of the previous year, but the proportion borne to them by the surplus (68 per cent.) was nine points higher, the increase of revenue being obtained at an enhanced cost of only Rs. 14,686.

The profits of forest operations were most remarkable in the Pegu and Southern Circles. In the case of the former, an outbreak of anthrax amongst the elephants at the Rangoon depôt necessitated the local sale of timber extracted by Government agency. The local depôts did not afford safe storage for logs during the rains, and the value of timber which would ordinarily have swelled the receipts of the following year appeared in the accounts of 1904-05. In the Southern Circle the increase of revenue was mainly the result of the more extensive operations of lessees, who extracted 74,881 tons of timber valued at Rs. 13,06,161, as against 56,401 tons, worth Rs. 7,20,896, in the previous year.

(*b*) *Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.*

Provincial Revenues.

229. Of the items of revenue, which are not distributed between Imperial and Provincial, receipts from Law and Justice—Courts of Law were less by Rs. 14,750 owing to a falling off in magisterial fines, while a larger demand for jail-made articles enhanced the income of the Jail Department by nearly Rs. 16,000. Cattle-pound receipts and the recoveries on account of Punitive police were larger than in the previous year, and coast light dues, which increased with the growth of trade, helped to add Rs. 39,693 to the income of the Marine Department. An increase of Rs. 13,096 under Education was due to the transfer of the Rangoon College to Government from the control of the Educational Syndicate. Miscellaneous receipts were enhanced by 1½ lakhs owing to the sale of elephants by the Kheddah department and the opening of new bazaars, and the growth of traffic on the Pegu-Sittang Canal produced a larger sum for Minor Works and Navigation. The receipts from Contributions were increased by the extension of the system of collecting revenue by the agency of village headmen.

The expenditure in connection with land revenue, which is not shared by Imperial, increased by Rs. 62,769 mainly owing to the employment of additional Myoôks and their establishments, and the extension of supplementary and town surveys, and under Customs an enhancement of Rs. 38,955 was due to the entertainment of a larger establishment at Rangoon and the opening of the new office at Bhamo, as well as to the payment of more overtime and holiday allowances to the staff.

More post office lines were subsidised during the year at an enhanced cost of Rs. 22,149. Privilege leave arrangements and deputations on special duty in the Secretariat increased the cost of General Administration by Rs. 37,975, and expenditure on Courts of Law rose by over Rs. 1,80,000 owing to the employment of additional Magistrates and clerks and the heavier cost of the process serving establishment and of the maintenance of witnesses. In the Police department, the recruitment of the new Southern Shan States Battalion, the larger outlay on arms and accoutrements, clothing, and petty construction and repairs and the grant of personal allowances to officers of the Civil Police increased the expenditure by Rs. 4,84,998, and payments for the construction of launches raised the cost of the Marine department by more than Rs. 70,000. The outlay on Education was Rs. 2,02,373 in excess of 1903-04. New schools were opened and additional contributions made in support of Municipal and Local schools; the control of the Rangoon College was assumed by Government and the salaries of Assistant and Deputy Inspectors were increased. The increase in the cost of the Medical department by a lakh of rupees was due to expenditure on the Rangoon General Hospital, the payment of an enhanced contribution to the Rangoon Port Trust on account of plague and the grant of local allowances and higher rates of salary to the officers of the Indian Medical Service.

Abnormal expenditure in the previous year had been incurred in the purchase of elephants and on the dredger employed in the Moulmein river, and the outlay under Miscellaneous and Civil works fell off. Greater economy was effected in the purchase of materials for the Jail Department, the Government Press was

administered at a smaller cost, and more than Rs. 82,000 was saved on repairs to embankments.

Local Funds.

Incorporated Local Funds.

230. Under this heading are included the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma, the analogous district funds of the Upper province and the Taunggyi Improvement Fund. The accounts show that the total receipts increased by Rs. 76,656 and the expenditure by Rs. 1,70,942. The bulk of the income of the District Cess Funds is derived from the provincial rates, which rise or fall with the collections of land revenue to which they are proportionate. This source of revenue was therefore considerably more profitable than in the previous year. The receipts from ferries and bazaars were also more considerable. On the expenditure side a greater outlay was incurred on civil works, but in some districts there was a falling off in the amount of commission paid to village headmen. Educational charges decreased, the expenditure on account of Itinerant teachers being borne by provincial revenues. The receipts of district funds were Rs. 9,637 and the expenditure Rs. 5,064 in excess of the previous year. The enhanced income was derived from slaughter-houses, cattle-pounds and ferries, and the expenditure on public works was increased. The Taunggyi Improvement Fund received Rs. 9,158 and spent Rs. 6,649, closing with a balance of Rs. 5,097. The following statement illustrates the financial position of the Incorporated Local Funds:—

Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
District Cess Funds	11,99,079	23,48,040	35,47,119	23,20,711	12,26,408
District Funds	2,69,307	4,46,360	7,15,667	4,55,813	2,59,854
Taunggyi Improvement Fund ...	2,588	9,158	11,746	6,649	5,097
Total ...	14,70,974	28,03,558	42,74,532	27,83,173	14,91,359

Excluded Local Funds.

231. The receipts, expenditure and balances of the various Excluded Local Funds are shown in the following statement. It includes the transactions of the Rangoon Port Trust, though these do not appear in the Government books:—

Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cantonment funds	11,945	2,21,997	2,33,942	2,03,314	30,628
Town funds	1,68,917	4,09,670	5,78,587	3,93,164	1,85,423
Port funds	2,16,711	3,36,562	5,53,273	3,49,868	2,03,405
Pilot funds	1,00,857	3,79,774	4,80,631	3,59,920	1,20,711
Land sale and Rent fund ...	1,159	619	2,778	2,778	...
Educational — General	32,347	46,858	79,205	44,618	34,587
Educational — College fund ...	17,905	33,600	51,505	51,505	...
Rangoon Police Reward fund ...	24	749	773	768	5
Rangoon Cantonment Garden fund ...	4,725	4,312	9,037	5,254	3,783
Rangoon Port Trust	9,69,496	23,88,990	33,58,486	17,93,183	15,65,303
Total ...	15,25,086	38,23,131	53,48,217	32,04,372	21,43,845

V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Both the income and expenditure of Cantonment funds were smaller than in the previous year, but the variations were largely fortuitous. Mandalay had received a special grant of Rs. 26,000 in 1903-04 for the improvement of conservancy, and a similar grant of Rs. 8,500 in 1904 was spent on Police barracks in Rangoon. There was, however, a real growth of income from taxation in the latter Cantonment. Larger grants-in-aid for particular purposes swelled the balances of the Meiktila, Maymyo and Shwebo funds. A new town fund was opened at Lashio. There are now fifteen of these funds, which are administered by Committees on Municipal principles in small towns.

The debt of the Rangoon Port Trust at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 31,44,041, of which Rs. 30,00,000 represented the loans of 1903-04. The Bassein Port fund borrowed Rs. 12,000 from Government in 1903 and was Rs. 6,845 in its debt at the end of the year.

The Pilot funds at Rangoon, Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein receive all pilotage receipts and disburse the earnings of pilots, the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and other expenses.

The balance of the Land Sale and Rent Fund at Akyab was transferred to the Government accounts in June 1904 and the fund closed.

The Rangoon Police Reward fund draws its income from fines and disburses them in rewards.

Government made a grant of Rs. 30,000 towards the support of the Educational Syndicate and the maintenance of the Bernard Free Library and the Rangoon College, but the management of the latter was transferred to Government in November 1904.

Road and Education Cesses.

232. There are no separate road and education cesses in Burma.

Municipal Revenues.

233. Excluding the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, which do not bank with Government, there were 39 municipalities, the transactions of which are given in the following statement:—

Opening balance.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Closing balance.
1	2	3	6
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
9,39,077	28,49,260	31,33,252	6,55,085

Municipal liabilities as regards loans on the 31st March 1905 were as follows:—

Due to Government.

	Rs.
Prome	1,55,133
Yandoon	25,693
Akyab	522
Shwegyin	1,305
Henzada	33,036
Myaungmya	41,929
Ma-ubin	18,686
Toungoo	7,000

Due to the Public.

	Rs.
Rangoon	1,06,85,500
Moulmein	10,16,000
Mandalay	7,23,000

The details of Municipal revenue and expenditure are set forth in paragraphs 81 to 100 of this report.

Other Funds.

Other classes of Trust Funds.

234. There is only one class of Trust Fund, *viz.*, the Official Assignee's, which does not bank with Government and its accounts are not shewn in the Government books.

Educational Endowment Funds.

235. The transactions of the four Educational funds, namely, Jardine, Maung Ohn Gaing, Renoung and Copleston, are similarly excluded from the Government accounts.

Paper Currency.

Circulation of notes.

236. The circulation of notes, which in the first year after the opening of the Paper Currency office amounted to Rs. 20,90,495, exceeded a crore of rupees in 1900-01 and in the year ending the 31st March 1905 reached the sum of Rs. 1,74,83,405, which represents an increase of 736 per cent. in 21 years. The issues and receipts for the year of report and the preceding year were as follows :—

Year.	Issues.	Receipts.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
1903-04	20,42,97,600	20,37,54,335
1904-05	22,34,80,680	22,15,72,280

The increase in circulation was most marked in the case of notes of the Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 denominations.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1904.

Triennial Report on the Hospitals and Dispensaries of Burma for the years 1902—1904.

Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1902-03 to 1904-05.

Tenth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1904-05, Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

System of registration.

237. The system of registration remained the same as in former years, but since the close of the year Civil Surgeons have been placed in control of the work of tabulating statistics. It is hoped by this means to exercise a more efficient check over the classification of diseases. The area under registration in Lower Burma remained the same, but in Upper Burma certain tracts, hitherto excluded, in the Lower Chindwin and Yamèthin districts and in the Upper Burma portion of the Thayetmyo district were brought under registration.

Births.

238. In Lower Burma, 189,028 births were registered, a decrease of 4,553 as compared with the preceding year. The decrease has been attributed to defective registration. Of the births registered 93,221 were males and 86,807 females, giving a proportion of 107 males to every 100 females born. The birth-rate for the province was in the annual ratio of 32·71 per 1,000 as against 33·54 for the previous year and a mean of 34·25 for the preceding five years.

The birth-rate amongst the urban and rural population was 26·54 and 33·66, respectively, as compared with 26·50 and 34·52 in 1903. The marked variations in the towns of Lower Burma show that registration is unreliable, but the low birth rates of Rangoon, Akyab and Moulmein, where the percentage was below 23, are attributable to causes incidental to life in large industrial towns. The excess of births over deaths in the Lower Province was 56,967.

In Upper Burma registration of births is at present in force in 12 towns only, but a proposal to extend the system to rural areas is under consideration. The number of births recorded was 10,393 against 11,047 in 1903, and the proportion of males to females born was as 106 to 100. The birth-rate was 35·05 as compared with 37·48 in 1903.

Deaths.

239. There were 123,061 deaths registered in Lower Burma during 1904 as against 132,767 in 1903 and an average of 123,675 during the previous five years, the resulting rates per thousand of the population being 22·36, 24·13 and 24·11. The fall in the death-rate has been attributed to the greater healthiness of the year, and particularly to its comparative freedom from cholera. Defective water-supply and sanitation were responsible for a high rate of mortality in some of the larger towns.

In Upper Burma, the total deaths registered amounted to 55,671 or 18·69 per 1,000, which is an improvement on the figures (62,941 and 21·80) of 1903.

Infantile mortality.

240. The mortality amongst children under one year of age was remarkable. The total number of such deaths was 34,475 in Lower Burma and 11,946 in Upper Burma. They amounted to 37 per cent. of the total mortality in some districts and to 28 per cent. of all the deaths in Lower Burma. Improper feeding and clothing, neglect, and insanitary surroundings have their inevitable effect on infant mortality, but perhaps the chief cause is to be found in the barbarous methods of midwifery which still survive the progress of civilisation.

Causes of deaths.

241. Deaths from cholera amounted to 2,980 and from small-pox to 1,809. Both figures were below normal. There was also a slight decrease in the number of deaths from fevers, which amounted to 75,556, and dysentery and diarrhœa were less fatal than in 1903.

242. There were no indigenous cases of Plague during the year, though three cases were detected during the medical inspection of vessels coming from Calcutta. The immunity hitherto enjoyed by Burma has, unfortunately, been interrupted since the close of the year. PLAGUE.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

243. The sales of quinine powders from Post offices decreased, but vaccinators were more successful in disposing of them. District reports show that there is very little demand for the drug, the value of which is not generally appreciated by the people. Quinine.

Emigration and Immigration.

244. The number of immigrants at the various ports during the year was 1,82,721 and of emigrants 1,25,215. At Akyab there was an exodus of harvesters, ploughmen and mill hands to Chittagong, but on the whole the figures represent a large permanent or semi-permanent addition to the population of the Province. The bulk of the immigrants arrive from the Madras coast ports for the harvest and milling season, and many are tempted by the high rate of wages prevailing to stay and invest their savings in paddy land. The arrivals at Rangoon included many beggars, ablebodied or otherwise. Emigration and Immigration.

Medical Relief.

245. Colonel Benson, M.B., I.M.S., officiated as Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Burma, from the 1st to the 22nd January 1904. Administration.

Colonel Little, M.D., I.M.S., the permanent incumbent, resumed charge of the duties on the 23rd January 1904, and continued in the appointment till the end of the year.

246. Compared with 1903, there was a marked increase in the total attendance at all hospitals in the province, the excess being 77,639 persons. Excluding Military Police and Railway Hospitals and those maintained entirely from private sources, there were 145 hospitals and dispensaries open at the end of the year. Twelve new institutions were opened and one closed. A new General Hospital for Rangoon was sanctioned, and is now in course of construction. The number of in-door patients at all hospitals was 50,593 as compared with 47,719 in 1903; of these 77·6 per cent. were discharged cured, 8 per cent. relieved, and 5 per cent. died. Nine lakhs seventy-two thousand seven hundred and ninety persons sought out-door relief as compared with 910,252 during 1903, but the proportion of women and children treated was slightly lower than in that year, their numbers being 168,174 women and 238,991 children. Attendance at hospitals and dispensaries.

247. With the exception of small-pox, cholera, and diseases of the eye, there was a general increase of all diseases as compared with 1903. The most common complaints were malarial fever, worms and ulcers. The statistics of mortality show the year to have been unusually healthy and it may be assumed that this increase in the number of diseases treated is due to an increased appreciation of the hospitals. Principal diseases.

248. The total number of surgical operations performed during the year was 24,280, as compared with 23,086 in 1903, and the percentage of deaths, which numbered 124, was higher. Defects in the surgical equipment of hospitals are engaging the attention of the Inspector-General. Surgical operations.

249. Exclusive of the opening balance, which amounted to Rs. 71,846, the nett income amounted to Rs. 8,59,807, as compared with Rs. 7,95,961 in 1903. The percentage of support from Government increased from 42·29 in 1903 to 47·55 in 1904, while that obtained from Municipal and Local Funds decreased from 49·54 in 1903 to 43·88. The increase in the share provided by Government was due to the expenditure incurred on additional establishment and structural improvements at the General Hospital, Rangoon, and to the payment Financial.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

of contributions of Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 6,000 to the Maymyo and Bassein Civil Hospitals, respectively. The expenditure during the year under all heads was Rs. 8,57,537 as against Rs. 7,94,045 in 1903. Part of this increase was due to the grant of additional and enhanced rates of allowances to all Hospital Assistants in the Province, and the rest may be attributed to the extension of the field of medical activity.

Private, Railway and Police Hospitals.

250. The number of out and in-patients treated in the private, Railway and Police Hospitals of the Province increased from 134,348 in 1903 to 159,171 in 1904. The number of operations performed was 1,781 as compared with 1,648 in 1903.

Dufferin Hospital, Rangoon.

251. The progress of this hospital has been hampered by frequent changes in the *personnel* of the staff. The attendance showed no advance on that of the previous year and there was a falling off in the number of in-door patients. A qualified Lady Superintendent has now been engaged and the affairs of the Hospital placed on a more satisfactory footing. Midwives and nurses have been trained for practise in the districts, and within the limitations imposed by the paucity of their numbers have done something towards mitigating the barbarity of native methods. A project is on foot to encourage proficiency in midwifery by the foundation of a scholarship for a medical course in England.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

252. Of the total Municipal income of the Province (Rs. 87,17,586), 28 per cent. was spent on water-supply, 1 per cent. on drainage, 13 per cent. on conservancy, and 10 per cent. on other sanitary works, or 52 per cent. on all sanitary works.

Water-supply.

253. During the year great progress was made with the Hlawga water-supply system for Rangoon. It was formally opened for public use in February 1905, and will, it is anticipated, provide 25 gallons of water per head for a population of 650,000. The original water-supply project at Mandalay has been abandoned as being too expensive and a system of wells is being tried, which, if completed, is estimated to cost three and half lakhs. The Moulmein water-works have been completed by the Public Works Department and handed over to the Municipal Committee. Negotiations for a loan for the execution of a similar project at Akyab are in progress. The old water-works at Prome were successfully replaced by a new system with a higher pressure.

Conservancy.

254. The Shone and Ault system of sewage conservancy in Rangoon was found to be working most unsatisfactorily during the year and Mr. Ault, a specialist, has been engaged to improve it. The septic tank at Maymyo was found to be inadequate for the growing requirements of the town, and a new installation is being constructed which will require an independent water-supply.

The total expenditure on conservancy during the year was Rs. 12,90,083.

Drainage.

255. Progress was made with a scheme designed to drain the masonry area in Mandalay, and a considerable addition was made to the masonry drains in Prome, but no improvement was effected in the surface drainge of Rangoon till after the close of the year. Surveys for a complete drainage scheme are in progress at Akyab.

Village Sanitation.

256. Outside Municipalities, a sum of Rs. 2,66,213 was spent on sanitary measures, but lack of funds and the apathy of the people militate against any substantial improvement.

Sanitary Board.

257. The Provincial Sanitary Board held only one meeting during the year. The rules for the constitution and procedure of the Board have now been revised and meetings will, it is hoped, be more frequent.

Vaccination.

General Results.

VI.—Vital Statistics and Medical Services.

258. The staff of vaccinators employed during the year numbered 233 as against 224 employed during the previous year, and one Native Superintendent was added to the strength of the inspecting staff. A scheme for the reorganization of the staff of Native Superintendents of Vaccination into three grades on Rs. 50, Rs. 75, and Rs. 100 a month has, since the close of the year, been sanctioned by the Government of India. The details of the scheme are being worked out. It is hoped that the recruitment of a better class of Superintendent will result in the improved efficiency of vaccination. The sanctioned scheme also contemplates the requirement of a reasonable standard of education from candidates for the appointment of vaccinator, and the grant of a stipend of Rs. 10 per mensem to ten candidates a year during a period of six months' training. The total number of persons vaccinated was 397,441 as against 398,634 in the previous year. The decrease is attributed to a general improvement in the correctness of returns. The number of successful primary operations was 301,984 as compared with 320,035, with a percentage of success of 84·71 as against 87·20 in the previous year. Although the total number of re-vaccinations increased from 22,836 to 26,271 the percentage of success fell from 54·97 to 47·60. The fall in the rate of success for both primary and re-vaccinations was largely due to the inferior quality or the temporary failure of the lymph supply, but ignorance or carelessness on the part of vaccinators and interference by the mothers of the children treated contributed to the same result. It is also thought probable that climatic reasons reduce the chances of success in the case of operations performed during the hot weather and rains. One thousand seven hundred and six operations represented the average work of each vaccinator during the year. This is 74 below the average of the previous year and nearly 300 below the standard which was set up by Colonel Little. It is, however, believed that previous returns have been falsified and that the decrease is to be attributed to improved supervision. It is observed that, though inoculation is still freely practised, the attitude of the people is rather apathetic than actually hostile, and that objections are only raised by Burmans to the vaccination of very young children. In Rangoon the reluctance of the native of India takes the form of obstruction.

Mortality from small-pox and extent of protection.

259. Since 1899-1900, when the death-rate was 13·21, there has been an almost continuous yearly decline in the mortality from small-pox, the death-rate for the year under review being only 2·38 per 10,000. The proportion of the population protected by vaccination was 324·89 per 10,000, as against 353·66 in the previous year.

Dispensary vaccination.

260. There was a marked increase in the activity of dispensary vaccinators, who performed 1,632 more operations than in 1903 with, however, a slight falling off in the ratio of success.

Verification.

261. There was a distinct improvement in the number of cases inspected by Civil Surgeons and Native Superintendents of Vaccination. The latter verified 19·35 per cent. of the primary operations performed and found 81 per cent. to be successful.

Financial.

262. The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 1,00,150, as compared with Rs. 94,331 in the preceding year. The difference was due to an increase in the pay of vaccinators and the employment of a larger staff during the year. The cost of each successful case was five annas two pies, as against four annas seven pies in the previous year.

Percentage of cost.

263. The percentage of cost borne by Government was 35·08, by Municipalities 17·12, by Local Funds 44·71, and by Native States 3·09, as compared with 35·61, 17·13, 43·68, and 3·58, respectively, for the previous year.

Supply of lymph.

264. Two hundred and fifty-two calves were inoculated at the Meiktila Vaccine Depôt and only 183 with success. The deterioration of lymph during the hot weather months had been observed in previous years, but at the end of May 1904 the inoculation of calves completely failed, and the supply of lymph was interrupted till the end of June. Lanolinated lymph was supplied during the year for 472,489 cases and glycerinated lymph for 14,340 cases. The average cost of each case was 1·92 pies.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1905.

Report on the Insein Reformatory School for 1904.

Tenth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05 and preceding years. Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), XII (The Press).

General System of Public Instruction.

265. There has been no important alteration in the system of Public Instruction since it was described in paragraphs 427—460 of the Report for the year 1901-02, though there have been additions to and a reorganisation of the staff. The policy outlined in paragraph 429 of that Report has been developed, and the transfer of the Rangoon College and the Collegiate School to Government has been carried into effect.

Education.

Number of schools and attendance.

266. The number of public schools increased from 5,557 in 1903-04 to 5,760 in 1904-05 and the attendance from 187,098 to 206,209. Private institutions were 590 more numerous than in the previous year and their pupils numbered 164,914 as against 160,037. The progress of education is illustrated by a rise of 4 per cent. in the number of schools and of 7 per cent. in the number of pupils. On an average there was one school to every three towns or villages, and the percentages of attendance by children of school-going age rose from 34·02 to 35·31 and from ·99 to 1·10 for boys and girls respectively.

Finance.

267. The total expenditure on Public Instruction rose from Rs. 23,90,735 to Rs. 26,78,356. Of this sum Provincial funds contributed nearly 43 per cent. or Rs. 2,14,085 more than in the previous year, while the income from fees and from Local funds was proportionately lower, and that from Municipal funds 1·28 per cent. higher than in 1903-04. Of the provincial expenditure, nearly 2¾ lakhs was debitable to an Imperial grant of four lakhs which was made for the furtherance of the policy of the Simla Conference of 1901. Though the whole of the grant was not spent, progress was made towards the realisation of its object, more particularly by improving the efficiency and prospects of teachers. Incidentally, the grant partially relieved local funds of the burden of educational expenditure. The increase in the income from fees was principally obtained from secondary schools.

Inspection and control.

268. A fifth Inspector of schools was appointed in February 1905 and provision was thus made for the supervision of Normal schools and European education, the first of which had formed the subject of a special enquiry and conference. The cost of the administration of the department was further increased by the considerable enhancements of pay which accompanied the formation of a Provincial service in July 1904 and the regrading of the staff of Deputy Inspectors.

Vernacular education.

269. Secondary schools increased in number from 269 to 309, and the attendance at them from 17,908 to 21,124. Only one of these schools was under Government management, and in that the attendance fell off. Elsewhere progress was general, except in the Mandalay Division. The results of examination shewed great improvement. There was an advance of 58 in the number of Primary schools, where the total attendance was 143,585. A school was opened at Falam in the Chin Hills, and sanction has been accorded to the foundation of twelve Government schools, while it is proposed to encourage the opening of private institutions by the payment of building grants. The expenditure on Primary vernacular schools was Rs. 3,93,369, or an increase of 15 per cent., and the proportion of

pupils who qualified at examination (72 per cent.) was an advance on the previous year. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

270. The number of English secondary schools (77) remained stationary, but the attendance shewed an advance of 1,452. The results of examinations in Standards V, VI and VII were not so satisfactory as in the previous year, the percentage of success being nearly 60 per cent. in the case of Government institutions and 54 per cent. in the case of aided schools. It is hoped that the encouragement afforded by the opening of Government schools at Thazi, Maymyo and Sagaing will effect an improvement in Anglo-Vernacular education. Primary schools shewed an increase of three in number and 345 in attendance. Anglo-Vernacular education.

271. At the Rangoon and Baptist Colleges there was a falling off in the number of students. Of the 151 students at the former, 26 were in the B.A. and 125 in the F.A Class. Only nine candidates appeared for the B.A. examination as against 20 in the previous year, and four passed, none with Honours. Thirty-nine out of 88 candidates passed the F.A. examination, more than half in the third division. The question of improving the methods of higher education in the Province was under consideration. The Baptist College, the conversion of which into a first grade institution is contemplated, sustained a severe loss in the death of its Principal, Dr. Cushing. Collegiate education.

272. The continued spread of education amongst girls was a gratifying feature of the year. The number under instruction was 54,787, of whom 49,659 were in public institutions, and a large and increasing number were Buddhists. There was an increase in every stage of instruction, but the majority (40,825) were in mixed Primary schools. One out of three female candidates passed the F.A. Examination and there were 12 successes out of 26 in the Entrance Examination. For the VIIIth standard girls were successful in 78 per cent. of their attempts, and in cases where both sexes came from the same school, they secured a fair, and in some standards a preponderating, number of passes. The expenditure on female education was Rs. 2,27,169 as against Rs. 1,98,032 in the previous year. Special salary grants are given to women-teachers in purely girls' schools, and the new Government Primary schools will include some intended exclusively for girls. Female education.

273. European education shewed an advance of 1 per cent. in the number of pupils, and its efficiency, in the Entrance and Preparatory Entrance Standards, was improved. It is proposed to establish a hill school at Maymyo for Europeans and Eurasians. At present all the schools are under aided management, the total expenditure incurred on them during the year being Rs. 1,59,923. European education.

274. Great attention was devoted during the year to the improvement of the teaching agency. All untrained teachers in Government schools are being gradually withdrawn for a course of training in a normal school, and it is hoped that the example will be followed by Municipal and aided schools. The course of instruction has been modified and improved and an increase in the number of stipends has been recently sanctioned. The attendance at Normal schools during the year increased from 473 to 494, the number of schools remaining stationary. New schools have now been opened at Rangoon and Akyab, and those at Moulmein, Toungoo and Mandalay have been reorganised and improved. The results of examination of trained masters were satisfactory, but female teachers were not so successful. The examination for untrained teachers' certificates, which will no longer be held, produced more passes on the Vernacular but fewer on the Anglo-Vernacular side. Training of teachers.

275. A scheme for the improvement of the Government Engineering School at Insein, the only Government Technical School in the Province, is approaching completion. It has been decided to extend and reorganise it, but not to raise it to the status of a College. Five out of seven candidates passed the Overseer test during the year. Drawing was practised much more freely in Vernacular Schools Technical education.

VII.—INSTRUCTION.

than in the previous year, the attendance at examination being four times as great though a smaller percentage of passes was obtained. The Kindergarten system also appealed to a much larger number of schools, and a great variety of races. Printing, book binding and carpentry were taught with some success at a Mission school for Karens at Toungoo.

Survey Schools.

276. The number of survey schools maintained by Government (18) remained as in the previous year. Sixty-six per cent. of the candidates passed in surveying and 59 per cent. in arithmetic, but the standard of proficiency in Revenue law showed a remarkable decline, especially in Upper Burma. The schools, which were nearly all inspected during the year, were less freely attended than usual owing to the exaction of a stricter educational test at entrance, which has since been relaxed. A sum of Rs. 480 was allotted for prizes and 212 scholarships were awarded to deserving scholars.

Insein Reformatory School.

277. Seventeen boys were admitted and twenty-three released at the Insein Reformatory School, and 76 were under detention at the end of the year. Their discipline and conduct were fair. Sixty-eight boys were submitted to a literary examination, of whom 57 passed by various standards from I to VI, while their proficiency in cane-work, carpentry and tin-work was remarkably good. The profits from the sale of manufactures amounted to Rs. 865. Twenty-seven boys were employed in the garden, which produced all the vegetables required for the school.

Non-Burman schools.

278. The number of Mahomedans under instruction rose from 10,475 to 11,207. There is only one special Mahomedan Anglo-Vernacular institution and it is observed that after passing the I or II Standard the boys generally attend Burmese schools. Of other races, only Karens studied above the middle stage, two passing the Entrance examination and eight in Standard VIII. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Shan chiefs continued to flourish, and the assistance of departmental officers is to be lent to the Northern and Southern Shan States for the advancement of education among the people at large. Vernacular education made headway amongst the Chins and the Government School in the hills produced good results.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

279. The number of publications registered under Act XXV of 1867 was 146, the same number as in the previous year, and of these 22 were republications. Only seven were in English and of these three were religious and three were educational. Religious subjects accounted for no less than 86 of the 146 books registered. The number of registered dramas fell from 32 to 9 and they were for the most part without literary merit.

Fifty-two of the publications were in Burmese, eleven in Pâli and 61 in both languages. A number of useful Pâli grammars and translations were published and several books on arithmetic.

A "Postal-guide and Directory for Chetties" was published in Tamil and English; a "Catechism of Hygiene" in Tamil; a Christmas Cantata in Sgaw Karen and two Gospels in Kachin.

There was a slight improvement in the class of books published. Works of edification and utility preponderated, and the "Story of Maung Yin Maung and Ma Me" is credited with the distinction of being the first published novel in Burmese.

English newspapers and periodicals.

280. The English daily papers are the "Rangoon Gazette" and "Rangoon Times" at Rangoon, with issues of 1,500 and 1,000, respectively, and weekly summaries of news and Commercial supplements, and the "Upper Burma Gazette" at Mandalay, with a circulation of 350. The "Rangoon Gazette" also publishes a yearly Directory and Diary. The "Mandalay Herald," "Moulmein Advertiser" and "Moulmein Gazette" are published three times a week and have a circulation of 250, 500 and 170 respectively. Of bi-weekly papers the "Friend of Burma" and

"Rangoon Advertiser" circulate 1,300 and 1,000 copies from Rangoon, the "Imperialist and Irrawaddy Advertiser" of Mandalay has a circulation of 250, and the "Arakan Times" and "Arakan News" have each a sale of 150 copies from Akyab. "Publicity" (1,000) and "The Indian Bird of Freedom" (300), are published weekly in Rangoon, where the American Baptist Mission Press also prints 500 copies of "Good Cheer." Monthly periodicals are "The News" (450), "The Baptist College Argosy" (400), "The Life Line" (500), The "Young Men's Christian Association Monthly Notes" (600), "Second Thoughts" (50), "Mental Science Siftings" (1,000) and "Die Hards Doings" (1,000), the first four of which are published at the Mission Press. Two thousand copies of an English quarterly, "Buddhism," are printed at Rangoon, 1,000 of the "Burma Mission Herald" and 700 of the "Diocesan Quarterly."

Vernacular newspapers and periodicals.

281. The only Vernacular daily papers are published in Rangoon. They are the "Friend of Burma" and the "Burma Herald," of which 1,000 and 800 copies respectively are issued in Burmese, and a Chinese paper the "Geong Kang Sin Po" with a circulation of 150. There are five bi-weekly Burmese papers "The Star of Burma" (150), the "Burma Times" (900), the "Hanthawaddy Press" (1,000), the "Burma Printer News" (500), and the "Maha Bodhi News" (300), the first of which is printed in Mandalay, the second in Moulmein and the rest in Rangoon, where, also, a Gujerati paper, the "Rangoon Samachar," and a Tamil paper, the "Aranga Pathrica," have a circulation of 360 and 500 respectively. The "Mandalay Times" (Burmese) which issues three times a week from a Mandalay Press, has an average sale of 250 copies. Monthly publications in Burmese include the "Monthly Review of the Society for promoting Buddhism" (1,000), the "Burma Advocate" (1,000), the "Burma Magazine" (1,000), the "Burman Messenger" (600) and the "Burma Law Journal" (1,000). The first is printed in Mandalay and the rest in Rangoon. There are also monthly periodicals in Tamil and Karen.

Literary Societies.

282. The chief literary societies are described in paragraphs 487—489 of the Report for the year 1901-02.

The average number of monthly subscribers to the Rangoon Literary Society increased to 148, and its annual income to Rs. 7,280, and additions were made to the Library. The number of visitors to the Institute of the Rangoon Teachers Association was more than three times as great as in the previous year and evening classes and lectures on various subjects promoted the objects of the Society. The value of the Bernard Free Library in Rangoon has been much increased since the close of the year by the acquisition of the collection of books belonging to the *ex*-Kinwun Mingyi of Mandalay at a cost of Rs. 10,000, of which Government contributed half.

The promotion of literature was one of the objects of the foundation of the Chinese Empire Reform Association of Burma. Debates and lectures were held during the year and Chinese translations of European works were procured, while the Association took a leading part in the project for the foundation of an Anglo-Chinese school in Rangoon.

Arts and Sciences.

283. The Annual Provincial Art Competition was held in January 1905 and was associated for the first time with an exhibition of paintings and photographs.

In the Crafts section the competition was keen and the exhibits of a high quality. A new departure was made by the offer of prizes to European firms directing native workmen. In the Fine Arts section there were 300 exhibits, of which one-third were photographs. The latter were good and the paintings in water colour gave signs of promise.

VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE—

Report on Archæological work in Burma for the year 1904-05.

284. The passing of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, enlarged the scope of the Government Archæologist's duties. The preparation of lists of ancient remains and buildings, to which it may be found advisable to apply the provisions of the Act, is now being undertaken. The decision in each case may take the form of maintenance by the Public Works Department at Government expense or of protection under the Act, and it may involve, in the case of public or religious buildings, the formation of trusts or the negotiation of agreements with Trustees.

The most important constructive work undertaken during the year was the dismantlement and re-erection of the spire of the Mandalay Palace, which, owing to the decay of the posts, was dangerously out of the perpendicular. The work was not completed, only Rs. 8,000 being expended out of an estimate of Rs. 60,975. A sum of Rs. 1,183 was expended on the construction of a masonry *pyatthat* over the tomb of King Shwebo Min.

A museum was opened in the palace at Mandalay in January 1905 and catalogues of its contents and of the exhibits in the Pagan museum were prepared. Progress was made with the architectural survey of the palace buildings at Mandalay, and some interesting discoveries were made in the course of excavations at Halingyi near Shwebo. Elsewhere, the conservation of monuments made progress, and a number of inspections were made by the Government Archæologist. The cost of the department was Rs. 19,534.

IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

285. The ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Province is described in paragraphs 492 and 493 of the Report for the year 1901-02.

Ecclesiastical.

286. The chief ecclesiastical event of the year was the consecration of the Cathedral Church at Rangoon by the Bishop, the Metropolitan of India and Ceylon assisting. The petition was presented by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Hugh Barnes.

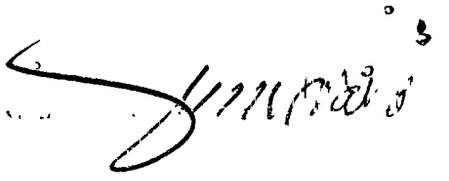
The high cost of living in Burma has been met by the grant of a Burma allowance to Government chaplains.

The decision of the military authorities to station British troops at Maymyo, leaving a small force at Mandalay, emphasized the need of a church at the former place and of increased clerical ministrations at both. It has accordingly been decided to erect at Maymyo the church, which it had been proposed to build at Fort Dufferin, in memory of those who fell in the last Burmese war, and temporary arrangements were made with the Town Chaplain for the conduct of services at Mandalay. The number of smaller stations visited from time to time by chaplains shewed a considerable increase.

Stationery.

287. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied from Indian mills. All supplies of stationery were, as usual, obtained from the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta, and the cost, which amounted to Rs. 2,58,457, was nearly Rs. 14,000 less than in the previous year.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 433, Chief Secy., 10-12-1905—576—A. D. C.



REPORT

ON

THE ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1905-1906

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

XI - 9

RANGOON:

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BURMA.

1906.

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GERMANY—

MR. RUDOLF HAUPT, HALLE-A-S.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1905-06.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The most notable event in the history of the Province during the year dealt with in this report was the visit in January 1906 of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales in the course of their tour through India. The Victoria Memorial Park in Rangoon was opened by His Royal Highness and the Royal Party visited Mandalay.

Changes in the Administration.

2. Sir Hugh Shakespear Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., was appointed to a vacant seat on the Council of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India and Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., assumed charge of the Government of Burma on the 9th May 1905. Important changes were made in several branches of the Administration. A Chief Conservator was placed at the head of the Forest Department and the superior staff of the Department of Public Works was strengthened and a second Chief Engineer appointed. The Provincial Civil Service was re-organised and largely increased, while arrangements were completed for the creation of a new Department of Agriculture and the appointment of a Commissioner of Excise.

Frontier affairs.

3. Friendly relations were maintained with all transfrontier authorities, and no disquieting incident of political significance disturbed the peace along the marches. Kachins living on the British side of the border in Myitkyina District were carried off into Chinese territory, but representations made to the Chinese authorities secured their release and the payment in one case of an indemnity. Petty disputes were everywhere settled as usual at meetings between local officers of British and transfrontier Governments. The question of dealing with the unadministered territory lying between the administered areas of the Provinces of Burma and of Bengal and Eastern Assam was discussed with the Government of the latter Province. Transfrontier Chiefs, to the number of 22, paid a friendly visit to the Deputy Commissioner of Myitkyina District and proffered their co-operation in the suppression of raids and smuggling.

The Shan States and Karenni.

4. The condition of the Shan States continued to be most satisfactory. Under the supervision of Government, the disordered finances of the Northern Shan State of Tawngpeng made a remarkable recovery and a large portion of the debt incurred by the Chief was cleared off. A similar result was attained in

Hsipaw, where the debts of the Acting Sawbwa were entirely liquidated and the estate of his father, the late Chief, wound up. In the Southern Shan State of Yawnghwe, discord between ruler and people disappeared with the introduction of a revised scheme of revenue settlement and the removal of dishonest officials. The loyalty and position of the *Sawbwa* were recognized by the grant by Government of a salute of nine guns. Much attention was paid to the improvement of communications and a road programme for the whole of the Southern Shan States was drawn up; the policy of Government in remitting tribute for expenditure on Public Works proved very successful in stimulating the Chiefs to action and in awakening public spirit in many of the States. Interest in education was aroused by the deputation of Deputy Inspectors of Schools to the Northern Shan States and the Central and Myelat Divisions of the Southern Shan States, where for the first time existing schools were inspected and registered. New schools were opened and arrangements were made for the opening of other schools with the pecuniary assistance of the Chiefs. The Government School at Taunggyi was raised to the status of a secondary school and continued to do excellent work in the training of future Chiefs and Notables. The public health was good and the States continued to enjoy immunity from plague. Crime of a serious nature was light and well dealt with by the Government police so far as their jurisdiction extended. In two of the Southern Shan States, Lawksawk and Mōng Nawng, small forces of regular police were entertained for the first time and in several States the construction of better prisons was commenced. The revenue of all the States was collected with ease and tribute was punctually paid to Government.

For the people at large the most unfortunate incident of the year was the cattle-disease which ravaged the Northern and Southern Shan States and entered Karenni. Great damage was done by fire in several of the capital towns, Kēngtūng and Loikaw being among the sufferers. In the Northern Shan States, despite a light rainfall and consequent shortage in the paddy crops, the year was favourable to agriculturists; the tea crop was particularly good and the export trade very brisk. In the Southern Shan States the rainfall was unseasonable and the opium, wheat and cotton crops were comparative failures.

The Chin Hills.

5. The Chin Hills were peacefully and successfully administered during the year on the same lines as heretofore. The only incident of special note was the despatch of a Military Police Expedition to the unadministered village of Wellaung. The expedition was admirably conducted by Mr. W. Street, the Acting Superintendent, and accomplished its object without bloodshed or destruction of property. Although the year was not marked by striking events, the unobtrusive work of the Acting Superintendent and his Assistants deserves to be recorded.

Realisation of the revenue.

6. The greater portion of the revenue was realised with the customary ease, but more pressure in the shape of notices of demand and warrants was required to bring in the small residue, some 11⅓ lakhs, of which only 78 per cent. was actually recovered. Remissions of revenue were unusually heavy; over 11 lakhs of land revenue alone were remitted and a lakh of capitation-tax.

Surveys.

7. A large amount of survey and demarcation prior to survey was done during the year. In most districts of the Province large scale surveys of the

more important towns were taken in hand and in five districts were completed. Demarcation of 750 square miles prior to cadastral survey was carried out in Thayetmyo, Akyab and Pegu and in Pakôkku Survey of India Party No. 7 brought the cadastral survey of the district within less than a season's work of completion. Locally raised survey parties began work on the original survey for revenue assessment purposes of 170 square miles in Akyab District and on the revision survey of large tracts in four Lower and two Upper Burma Districts and operations over an area of nearly 1,200 square miles were completed during the year. Smaller parties commenced the re-survey of the fisheries in the Pyapôn and Ma-ubin Districts and special establishments were employed, although to a smaller extent than in former years, on the survey of waste land applied for by cultivators.

Settlements.

8. Six Settlement parties were at work during the year, three in Upper and three in Lower Burma. One party completed the original settlement of Tavoy, for which new rates of assessment were sanctioned during the year, and then proceeded to the original settlement of Mergui. Work in Katha and Shwebo Districts came to an end and the respective parties were transferred to the original settlements of Pakôkku and the Lower Chindwin Districts. Revised assessment rates were notified for the area dealt with in Kyaukpyu in 1904-05, and the small party which accomplished the summary settlement commenced work on a small area in Sandoway. The Delta Revision Settlement party completed work in three-fourths of the Ma-ubin District and proceeded to deal with the adjoining areas, while in Upper Burma one party was engaged simultaneously in the Canal area of Mandalay and on the revision of the rates in Minbu. The total expenditure incurred on settlement operations during the year was 3·39 lakhs, while the enhanced revenue obtained from newly notified rates amounted to 2·83 lakhs.

Land Records.

9. An addition of 815 square miles, mainly in Upper Burma, was made to the total area under supplementary survey, and half a million acres, of which four-fifths represent the newly settled Magwe District, were added to the area under assessment. The total assessment rose by 9½ lakhs to 2½ crores, Magwe contributing 4½ lakhs. Increases were the rule in Lower, decreases in Upper Burma. The Land Records establishment, enlarged by five Inspectors and 62 surveyors during the year, cost 10·72 lakhs, or 4·3 per cent. of the total assessment. There was a further decline to 402 in the attendance at the 18 Government Survey Schools.

Transfers of land.

10. The unfavourable character of the year was shown by an increase of 80,000 acres in the area of culturable land mortgaged combined with no appreciable advance in the area redeemed, but the average mortgage rate at the same time rose by Rs. 2 to Rs. 32·2 an acre, and the sale price by over Rs. 4 to Rs. 42·39. Acres 542,160 were sold outright and nearly 1,200,000 acres were under mortgage at the close of the year. Floods and cattle-disease were the usual reasons assigned for transfers.

Waste lands.

11. The growing tendency to permit the free occupation of the waste explains a further decline to 53,394 acres in the area granted or leased for cultivation. No leases were issued in half of Upper Burma and only an insignificant area was granted in the Pegu Division, where the suspension of the grant rules is on its trial. Leases for rubber cultivation were issued in Mergui under

new rules for the encouragement of rubber. Revenue-free grants for public and religious purposes aggregated 1,243 acres, 670 acres representing village headmen's land in Katha District.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. Persons other than agriculturists held nearly 15 per cent. of the total occupied area, the unfavourable season adding somewhat to the proportion. Orders were issued, with a view to check the transfer of land to non-cultivating classes, prescribing the scrutiny of all fresh acquisitions and the ejectment of undesirable transferees from land in which full rights of ownership have not been acquired. Tenants paying full rents held nearly 2⅓ million acres, rather more than in 1904-05, and the average rent for the average tenancy of about 13 acres rose slightly to Rs. 9·87 an acre.

Legislation.

13. Four Bills were passed by the Legislative Council. The first of these was the Burma Motor-vehicles Act; the other three were amending Acts, one of which conferred fresh or enhanced powers on Municipal Committees in respect of new markets, the prescribing of standard weights and measures and the drainage of buildings and land, while the other two effected amendments necessary to carry out the intention of the Burma Forest Act, 1902, and of the Rangoon Port Act, 1905. Certain provisions of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, were extended to the notified areas of Lashio and Taunggyi in the Shan States.

Police.

14. Effect was given from the 1st April 1905 to the measures sanctioned by the Government of India for raising the pay and status of the lower grades of the Civil Police at an extra expenditure of 2½ lakhs, which brought the total cost for 1905 up to 41½ lakhs. Recruitment was unsatisfactory in many districts and the force was 672 below its sanctioned strength. Casualties were more numerous than in 1904 and the results of musketry training were poor. Apart from an increase in the number of murders, there was a satisfactory decrease of violent crime and the rise of 12 per cent. in the number of true cases of cognizable crime under the ordinary criminal law occurred chiefly in minor offences against property. Of true cases 66 per cent. were brought to trial and 56 per cent. ended in conviction, while stolen property was recovered in more than half the cases of theft. Rather more action was taken under the preventive provisions of the law, more especially in regard to professional gamblers, but trace was lost of no fewer than 18 per cent. of the released criminals under surveillance. Punitive Police were imposed in three cases and Village Headmen continued to render valuable aid in the maintenance of order and the detection of crime.

Except in connection with the Wellaung expedition already mentioned, no special services were required of the Military Police during the year, and a rise of 1¾ lakhs to 53·4 lakhs in the cost of the force was mainly due to the constitution of the new Southern Shan States Battalion. Success attended the experimental recruitment of Shans for that Battalion, and the enlistment of Kachins in other battalions continued to afford satisfactory results.

Criminal Justice.

15. Certain changes took place in the constitution of the criminal courts in consequence of the creation of a separate Judicial Service, but the nett addition to the number of Magistrates was very small. Twelve officers, including seven of the

new District Judges, were empowered for the relief of District Magistrates to try all cases not punishable with death. The total cost of the courts rose to 20 lakhs gross and 12 lakhs nett. The number of offences reported increased by 7 per cent., but little more than a half of the excess cases were returned as true and the bulk of these were petty offences under the Municipal and other local laws. Of 88,713 cases disposed of, no fewer than 29 per cent. were dealt with by the Benches of Honorary Magistrates, of which there were 28 in all. The percentage of conviction slightly improved. More complaints were dismissed summarily more compensation was paid, more whippings were inflicted and more first offenders were released on probation, but short-term imprisonments were still in a majority. Appeals were more numerous in the District Courts of Upper Burma and in the courts subordinate to the Chief Court in Lower Burma, but fewer cases were dealt with in revision and there was less interference with the orders passed.

Prisons.

16. Two of the smaller jails were closed during the year, but the accommodation provided in the 30 remaining jails was adequate for the daily average population of 12,637 prisoners, although transfers from Lower Burma to Upper Burma were frequently necessary to avoid overcrowding. Admissions to prison were over 3,000 in excess of the previous year's total and the daily average was nearly 1,000 higher, chiefly because of the large number of short-term prisoners. Discipline was well maintained and, although more punishments were inflicted, fewer convicts were taken before Magistrates and fewer were whipped. The number of escapes was insignificant. The health of the prisoners was remarkably good; the daily average number of sick, 16·62 per 1,000, was the lowest for many years and there were only 215 deaths. Despite the increased number of prisoners and higher salaries paid to jail Superintendents, the total cost of the department fell to a little over seven lakhs; the cash earnings of the prisoners fell slightly to 2·08 lakhs, yet their nett cost to Government was Rs. 2 per head less than in 1904 in consequence of the large saving effected in the cost of food by the elimination of the middleman.

Civil Justice.

17. Separate Superior and Subordinate Judicial Services for Lower Burma were inaugurated in March 1905 and an extra Divisional Court was established. These reforms added a little over half a lakh to the expenditure on Civil Justice. The total number of suits filed in the year was 82,971, an advance of 14·6 per cent. for which Lower Burma with a rise of nearly 10,000 cases was responsible, and there was again a notable increase in mortgage suits, although the predominance of suits for money or moveable property was not affected. Over 81,000 suits were decided, but contested suits formed only 26 per cent. of these and numerically were almost the same as in 1904. There was a rise in the average duration of cases. Miscellaneous cases also were more numerous and the increase in the total number of applications for execution of decrees was even more marked than the rise in the number of suits. There was a decrease in the number of appeals decided and the average duration was greater. More cases of every kind were pending at the close of the year. Receipts rose by over three lakhs to 17½ lakhs with the greater volume of business and exceeded the total charges for the year by more than 4½ lakhs.

Registration.

18. The only change made in the law regulating the registration of deeds was the extension to all offices of the rule requiring Registering officers to take the thumb impressions of executants who are illiterate or not personally known to them. The 48 offices in Upper Burma registered practically the same number of documents as in 1904, while there was a marked increase in the number dealt with in Lower Burma and in both parts of the Province a noticeable fall in the average value of the immovable property affected by the deeds registered. The decrease in value is explained by the cessation of the heavy speculation in oil-well sites in Magwe District in Upper Burma and in land in Rangoon Town, while the increased number of documents in the Lower Province was due to the extension of portions of the Transfer of Property Act. The total income of the department rose slightly to 1·93 lakhs, while the expenditure increased largely to Rs. 68,755 mainly because of the appointment of a whole-time Sub-Registrar in Rangoon.

Municipal Administration.

19. The grant of full Municipal status to the two towns of Pyapôn and Kyaiklat in the Delta raised the total number of municipalities in the Province to 43. In Rangoon the reclamation of the low-lying portions of the town was pushed on with energy and a commencement was made with the work of extending and enlarging the Shone system of underground drainage and of substituting electricity as the motive power of the tramway system and as the illuminant in street lighting. Further expenditure was incurred on the Hlawga Lake in connection with two of the dams which showed signs of weakness and the work of relaying the water-mains in the town itself was begun. Attention was paid to the re-organisation of the various departments of the municipality to secure their greater efficiency, and to meet the heavy expenditure involved by these improvements, the Municipal Committee resolved to increase the water-tax and the scavenging-tax. Taxation rose by 9 annas per head of the population to Rs. 7-8-4, but income fell slightly. In the remaining 42 municipalities taxation also rose in consequence of the revision of assessments and the levy of fresh imposts or the enhancement of existing taxes. Progress was made in the equipment of some of the towns with the essentials of sanitation; the conservancy scheme area was extended in Mandalay and in that town and in Prome the construction of masonry drains made headway. Some work was done on the Akyab water-supply scheme and success rewarded the efforts to supply the towns of Letpadan and Thônzè in the Tharrawaddy District with a supply from artesian wells. Roads received more attention, especially in Mandalay. Considerable expenditure was incurred in all towns in connection with the measures for the suppression of plague which made its appearance in Burma for the first time.

Military.

20. Eight lakhs were spent on barracks and other buildings mainly in pursuance of the scheme of transferring part of the Garrison to Maymyo. The Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers were re-organised and the total strength of the six volunteer corps in the Province slightly increased.

Marine.

21. Provision was made for the better supervision of the 13 light-houses and light-ships off the coast of Burma by the appointment of an officer of the Public Works Department as Inspector to assist the Principal Port Officer. Receipts

from light-dues and expenditure on the lights were both heavier than in the previous year. Considerable progress was made with the improvement of the Port of Rangoon; 28 lakhs were spent out of a sanctioned estimate of 39½ and two new loans were floated successfully by the Port Trust at the reduced rate of 4 per cent. interest. The income of the Trust amounted to 23¾ lakhs and the expenditure out of revenue to 29 lakhs, while receipts from pilotage fees increased to 2⅔ lakhs. There was also an increase in the income of the six minor ports, but their expenditure was less. The number of vessels which visited the ports of the Province fell slightly, but the decrease was not shared by Rangoon, where 3,247 vessels, aggregating nearly 5 million tons, entered and cleared during the year. Sailing ships were fewer but larger in size and the number of steamers exceeding 4,000 tons surpassed all previous records. Three vessels were wrecked during the year and two lives were lost in one collision. The Government flotilla was increased to 90 vessels of all kinds; its upkeep cost nearly 6 lakhs and its earnings amounted to 4¼ lakhs. In addition three Royal Indian Marine vessels were fully employed in the transport of troops and stores. Landing stages and pontoons were constructed at various trading centres. The entire re-survey of the Rangoon River was carried out at the expense of the Port Trust.

22. Much loss was caused to cultivators by the prevalence of cattle disease, especially rinderpest, to which nearly 112,000 deaths were due. The Government Veterinary staff worked hard to combat the epidemics and inoculated more than twice the number of cattle so treated in the previous year and with even better results. To aid the cultivators to replace their losses Government increased its agricultural loans to 6¾ lakhs and successfully recovered 5·59 lakhs of these and former loans within the year. For the first time arrangements were made to enable loans to be paid to villagers at their own villages instead of at township headquarters. Seventeen new Co-operative Credit Societies were started, bringing the total since the commencement to 21, with 1,365 members and funds amounting to Rs. 68,582, of which more than half represented members' subscriptions. Comparatively little use was made of the Government stallions and the exhibits at the two agricultural shows held during the year were disappointing. Harvest prices for the principal crops for the most part ruled higher than in the previous year, partly in consequence of the diminished supply and partly because of the increased demand from India. A breach in one of the embankments caused a slight fall in the area (some 604,000 acres) protected from floods in Lower Burma, and the unseasonable rainfall in parts of Upper Burma led to a contraction of the acreage, roughly 794,000, under irrigation. A sign of deficient water-supply in the tanks and canals was a gain of 6,000 acres under miscellaneous food-crops at the expense of rice. Agriculture.

23. The rainfall of 1905 was untimely and badly distributed and in most districts crops suffered from scarcity of moisture at one period and from excess at another. Over a large area in Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin Districts the rice crop was entirely destroyed by floods, and Mandalay and Sagaing in Upper Burma suffered to some extent in the same manner. The season was perhaps most inauspicious in the dry zone districts along the river and they were mainly responsible for a slight decrease in the total area put under crop and for a very noticeable falling off in the twice-cropped area. More than a quarter of a million Weather and Crops.

acres less were planted with sessamum and millet and on little short of a million acres or 7·7 per cent. of the cultivated area the crops failed to mature. A fifth of the occupied area of 15⅝ millions acres was not cultivated at all. The only crops which showed a noticeable increase were chillies and ground-nuts, the latter a variety of cultivation of very recent growth and confined so far to Magwe and Myingyan. Ground-nuts were experimentally grown with success in three other districts and promising experiments with American cotton were made in Myingyan, although the season was generally unfavourable to the crop.

Horticulture. **24.** Experimental cultivation continued in the six gardens maintained by Government in Upper Burma and two of them were considerably enlarged. Coffee did well at Myitkyina and Taunggyi and potatoes at Katha, while the asparagus at Falam gave a fair yield. Receipts from the sale of vegetables and fruit were rather less than in the previous year. In Rangoon and Moulmein the Agri-Horticultural Societies continued their useful work. A successful show was held in Moulmein and much progress was made by the Rangoon Society in the arrangement and equipment of their new garden.

Forests. **25.** A nett addition of 133 square miles brought the total area of reserved forest on the 30th June 1906 up to 20,544 square miles, while proceedings in pursuance of further reservation were completed at the cost of Rs. 23,415. A slightly larger sum was spent on the demarcation of forest boundaries, and nearly 1¾ lakhs on forest surveys, of which 1,258 square miles were completed by the Survey of India, while local officers mapped the interior details of 219 square miles and the boundaries of 393 square miles. Working-plans were completed and approved for 686 square miles, but only three parties could be spared for the continuance of the work during the year and the new area dealt with was considerably less than this total. Progress was made in the construction of new roads and bridle-paths and road programmes were drawn up. The strengthening of the staff of subordinates in the Arakan Division and greater strictness in dealing with petty offences caused an increase in the number of prosecutions for infringements of the forest law; but there was a gratifying decrease in the number of punishments for unauthorised grazing in reserves. Forest fires were unusually numerous and severe in consequence of the prolonged hot season and fire conservancy operations proved unavailing over a tenth of the total area of 8,213 square miles dealt with. Cultural operations were extended over a considerable area and consisted for the most part of broadcast sowing with teak in Minbu and dibbling teak-seed in Pyinmana. The portion of the Mergui Rubber Plantation enclosed in 1904-05 improved so greatly that an extension of the fencing is contemplated. The lowest price received in London for the season's outturn of rubber was five shillings a pound and more than half the quantity sold fetched one shilling more. More teak was extracted, but there was a very considerable decline in the output of other timber, especially that used for fire-wood. *Pyinkado* sleepers were again supplied under contract to the Burma Railways Company, but except for the small quantity taken by the Ordnance Factory, there was no demand for the stock of *padauk* wood in hand. The Government tannin factory was closed and an expert conducted enquiries as to the possibility of starting a wood-pulp industry in Burma. Fifteen new pupils entered the Forest School at Tharrawaddy, the reconstitution of which is under consideration.

26. Progress was made in the exploitation of the known mineral wealth of the Province, but despite the number of prospectors at work no new minerals were discovered or fresh fields opened up. The yield of oil from the existing fields rose by 26 million gallons to the total of 142 millions, but for the most part the results of gold-dredging were disappointing. The outturn of rubies was practically the same as in 1904 despite increased expenditure, while the proceeds from royalties paid by native miners fell noticeably. The output of jade was again higher than in the previous year, but the corundum mines were deserted and the first finds of tourmaline were soon exhausted. More amber was produced and a good quality of coal was discovered in the Upper Chindwin District. Mines and Quarries.

27. No tendency to change was manifest in the home industries of the Province. Ten new rice and seven saw-mills came under the Factories Act during the year, but the bulk of factory employés are natives of India, and Burmans have shown very little taste so far for a factory life. Accidents to factory hands were fewer than in 1904, and their health and the sanitary conditions under which they worked were generally satisfactory. Fewer women and children were employed, but a decline in the number of men was mainly due to erroneous enumeration in the previous year. Manufactures.

28. A slight increase to 42¾ crores of rupees in the value of sea-borne trade was the result of a large development in the coasting trade with India despite a decline in the foreign trade from which only the exports from Rangoon were exempt. No less than 83 per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon. Trade with Great Britain, though forming nearly a third of the foreign trade, was less than in 1904-05 and there was also a decrease in the trade with Japan. The chief feature of the year was the rise in the exports of rice and kerosene oil to Indian ports. Notable advances took place in the exports of hides, candles and raw cotton to foreign ports and Java, now in direct steamer communication with Rangoon, took nearly five times as much rice as in 1904-05. Iron for building purposes, yarn and textile fabrics and kerosene oil came from foreign countries in much smaller quantities, as the result of an over-supply in the previous year. Imports from India rose, but for the first time for some years were less than the exports. Sea-borne Trade.

29. The marked rise in exports which characterised sea-borne trade extended also to the trade by land across the frontier where they formed 46 per cent. of a total trade valued at over 4⅛ crores. Exports and imports combined increased by 8·46 per cent. Trade with Siam declined, but that with Western China and the Shan States advanced, though part of the large increase in the returns of the Southern Shan States trade was the result of better registration. A third of the total trade with the Northern Shan States came from the imports of tea, wet and dry, while manufactured cotton goods maintained the leading place among the exports both thither and to the Southern Shan States, which sent in return more potatoes but less live-stock. Transfrontier Trade.

30. The expenditure from all sources on public works other than railways and tramways during the year reached the sum of 1 crore 45½ lakhs, nearly 20 lakhs more than the high total of the previous year. Of this amount 19 lakhs Public Works—(i) Roads and Buildings.

represented establishment charges. A large outlay was incurred on the improvement of existing roads, but the length of new road added was comparatively small. The longest new metalled road was the hill portion, 16 miles in length, of the highway between Toungoo and Thandaung. Much progress was made with the metalling of the important Mogôk and Taunggyi roads, and several rough tracks were constructed in Mergui to open out the country. The total expenditure on communications from Provincial Funds was nearly 40 lakhs, but even this considerable sum was surpassed by the outlay of over 46 lakhs on new buildings. The increase of nearly 12 lakhs over the expenditure during the previous year was due to the simultaneous erection of the new Chief Court and the new General Hospital in Rangoon, both large and costly buildings, the completion of the wings of the Public Offices and the demand all over Lower Burma for new Courts and houses for the newly created Judicial Services. Somewhat extensive building operations were required for the accommodation of the new Shan States Battalion of Military Police at Taunggyi and for the new Civil Station at Loi Mwe. Numerous buildings were completed for all departments, several new bazaars and hospitals were built in the smaller towns and the Maymyo, Taunggyi, Mogôk and Lashio water-supply schemes were taken in hand.

Public Works—(ii) Railways and Tramways.

31. No new railways or tramways were opened during the year, but work was in progress on two important new branches of the Burma Railways system aggregating 187 miles in length, and on the extension and electrification of the Rangoon Tramways. Detailed surveys of three proposed extensions of the railway system were carried out and a survey commenced of a narrow guage line between Bhamo and the trade centre of Têngyüeh in China. Floods caused much interruption to traffic, except on the Mandalay Main line and on the branch to Lashio, each of which was breached only once. The gross railway earnings for the year were slightly larger, but the improvement was more than swallowed up in the heavier working expenses, which amounted to 66 per cent. of the receipts as compared with 61·3 in the previous year. Nearly 300,000 more train miles were run, 24 lakhs were added to the capital expenditure and the return on the total outlay fell slightly to 4·03 per cent. Capital expenditure was incurred on the doubling of the line northwards from Rangoon to Letpadan and Pegu and on the purchase of engines and rolling stock. The outbreak of plague affected the tramway receipts both in Rangoon and Mandalay, and the Duyinzeik-Thatôn line also earned less than in the previous year.

Public Works—(iii) Canals.

32. More use was made of the Pegu-Sittang-Kyaikto Canals and the maintenance charges of the Pegu-Sittang Canal were less than 63 per cent. of the receipts from tolls on boats and rafts. Heavy expenditure however was incurred on repairs and improvements to both works and their combined receipts, rather less than 1⅔ lakhs, fell short of the total outlay under all heads by nearly Rs. 1,30,000.

Irrigation.

33. There was a decline in the area benefited by irrigation works maintained by Government, both Major and Minor. The Mandalay Canal was the sole revenue-earning representative of the former class during the year and although the levy of full rates on the area watered raised its receipts to 2·2 lakhs, that area was less than in the previous year and amounted to little more than two-thirds

of the irrigable maximum. Working expenses were increased by the inclusion of charges previously debited to the capital account, which was closed during the year, and the nett revenue received represented the small return of 2·06 per cent. on the invested capital. The Main Shwebo Canal was opened in March 1906, and in all nearly 14 lakhs were expended on the construction of the Shwebo, Ye-u and Môn Canals during the year. The various minor canal systems in the dry zone of Upper Burma supplied water to 288,666 acres, nearly 18,000 acres less than in 1904-05, while the gross revenue amounted to 9·17 lakhs and the nett revenue to over 1⅓ lakhs, consequent on decreased outlay on remodelling.

Gross Revenue.

34. Ten crores 1⅓ lakhs of rupees, or £6,675,000 sterling, were collected and credited to Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds during the financial year; the Imperial share was 397⅔ lakhs or £2,651,000, the Provincial share 420⅓ lakhs or £2,802,000, and the amount distributed among the various Local Funds 183⅓ lakhs or £1,222,000. The gross expenditure rose by nearly one crore of rupees to £4,580,000 sterling.

Imperial Revenue and Finance—Land Revenue.

35. The current demand for the agricultural year which ended in June 1906 on account of ordinary land revenue was more than eight lakhs above the demand for the previous 12 months, but owing to the heavy remissions found necessary, the total sum collected, 228⅔ lakhs, was over a lakh less than the collections of 1904-05. Fishery revenue fell by half a lakh to 28·85 lakhs, the unfavourable season of 1904-05 affecting the prices obtained at the auctions for the following year. Capitation-tax in Lower Burma yielded 49·58 lakhs or Rs. 27,000 less; the amount remitted more than doubled, and the number of persons exempted rose by over 5,000, both mainly in consequence of the unfavourable season. On the other hand there was an increase of 21,239 households in the total number assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma, and the collections of the current demand amounted to 46 lakhs or only 2⅔ lakhs less than in the previous year, despite the reduction of 3¼ lakhs in Magwe consequent on the introduction of the settlement and the transmutation of the agricultural portion of the *thathameda* demand into a direct assessment on land. The royalty on rubies produced considerably less and the decrease was not made good by an expansion of receipts from the royalty on petroleum.

Customs.

36. The considerable decrease in the value of imports from foreign countries and the diversion of more rice to the ports of India were reflected in a decline of 17⅓ lakhs in the Customs revenue. Export duty on rice is levied only on cargoes for foreign ports.

Salt.

37. An increase of over Rs. 82,000, obtained half from larger receipts from excise duty on salt made in Burma and the balance equally from customs duty on imported salt and duty on imported salt fish, brought the total salt revenue to over 18 lakhs. The increased income from local salt was due to the better working of the new system of direct taxation on outturn, which was extended to Amherst District during the year. Tons 22,140 of local salt passed into consumption and customs duty was paid on 50,358 tons or 69 per cent. of the whole supply. England, Germany and Aden supplied all the foreign salt and England once more regained the priority which for some years before she had lost to Germany.

Opium and Excise.

38. A reduction in the quantity of opium sold in the licensed opium shops in consequence of the exercise by Resident Excise Officers of their power to restrict individual sales caused a decrease of Rs. 41,000 in the cost price of opium, which is entirely an Imperial asset, and of nearly three lakhs in that portion of the revenue from opium which is credited to Excise. The decline was more than counterbalanced by higher receipts from the liquor traffic, despite a reduction from 245 to 130 in the number of shops for the vend of imported liquors and spirits. Keen competition for the licenses in Rangoon counteracted much of the loss resulting from the abolition of shops in the smaller towns, where it was considered desirable to check the growth of the taste for alien drinks. A new distillery was opened in Tavoy, eight outstills for the manufacture of country spirit were abolished and a trial was made of the Minimum Guarantee system. *Tari* shops produced an increased revenue, despite a further reduction of their number, but the largest increase came from licenses for the sale of other country fermented liquors and was partly due to an increase in the number of shops, dictated by a desire to substitute a taste for what is believed to be a comparatively harmless beverage.

Stamps.

39. The cessation of active land speculation in Rangoon checked the growth of receipts under the Indian Stamp Act and this check was turned to a decline by the abolition of the separate one-anna receipt labels. On the other hand the growth of Civil litigation that signalised the creation of separate Judicial Services in Lower Burma largely swelled receipts under the Court-fees Act and the total revenue rose to 36·44 lakhs and exceeded that of any previous year.

Assessed Taxes.

40. From the 1st April 1905 the Income-tax Act was brought into general operation throughout Lower Burma; the number of assessees increased and the revenue rose by 1⅔ lakhs to 15·36.

Forests.

41. Part of the Forest revenue which would ordinarily have been realised in the year of report, was anticipated in consequence of an outbreak of anthrax among the Government elephants at the Rangoon Depôt; this explained the unusual increase of 24 lakhs in 1904-05 and the decrease of more than 15 lakhs in 1905-06, which combined with an increased expenditure of 3½ lakhs to reduce the surplus revenue to 55·8 lakhs.

Imperial Expenditure.

42. The total expenditure in the Province from Imperial Funds amounted to 54 lakhs, or 8½ lakhs in excess of the figure for the previous year. The increase was mainly due to the heavy outlay incurred on the housing of the Imperial garrison at Maymyo and to the higher cost of the year's administration of the Forest Department.

Provincial Revenues.

43. The Provincial income is mainly derived from the heads of revenue shared with Imperial Funds; among the smaller items which are not in part Imperial assets a decrease in the receipts from the sale of elephants went far to counterbalance the improved income yielded by coast-light and canal dues and the extra contribution from District Cess Funds in consequence of a further introduction of the system of revenue collection by village headmen. The total expenditure debitable to Provincial Funds during the year amounted to 446·6 lakhs of rupees, or just under three million pounds sterling and exceeded the revenue of the year by 26·2 lakhs or £175,000. The heaviest item of expenditure was that

on Public Works, followed closely by the charges incurred on the maintenance of the Police Forces, Civil and Military, these heads absorbing nearly 218 lakhs or not far short of half the total sum. Under nearly every head of expenditure there was an increase, mainly in consequence of the entertainment of larger establishments; only four heads show a decrease and that only because the expenditure of the previous year was swelled by some unusual items.

Local Funds.

44. The grant of a contribution of 4½ lakhs out of the Imperial surplus was mainly responsible for an increase both in the receipts (33·17 lakhs) and in the expenditure (32·44 lakhs) of the 36 Incorporated Local Funds. The contribution was intended to be spent on public works and due effect was given to this intention, for 3¼ lakhs more were spent on roads and buildings. Apart from this abnormal item, there was no great expansion of Local revenue either in Upper or Lower Burma. Of the Excluded Local Funds, the most important is the Rangoon Port Trust, which has already been mentioned. The revenue of the remaining funds amounted to 14¾ lakhs and their expenditure to 13·9.

Municipal Revenues.

45. The Rangoon Municipal income during the year was 41½ lakhs, of which rather over 15 lakhs represented loans, temporary advances and deposits. The ordinary income of slightly over 26 lakhs was a lakh above the total for 1904-05. Expenditure exceeded income and the balance at the credit of the Fund at the close of the year fell to 7·69 lakhs, the greater part of which represented unexpended loans, while the total indebtedness rose to close on 114 lakhs. The remaining 42 municipalities collected 32½ lakhs and expended nearly 32 and their total indebtedness at the close of the year was slightly over 20 lakhs of rupees. Only two fresh loans were raised, one of Rs. 80,000 by Mandalay and one of Rs. 30,000 by Akyab.

Births and Deaths.

46. The duty of supervising the agency employed in the registration of births and deaths was transferred to Civil Surgeons. In Lower Burma both births and deaths were more numerous than in the previous year, the ratios per thousand being 34·34 and 24·93 respectively. In Upper Burma the birth-rate in the 12 municipal towns, where alone registration is in force, was 34·91 or much the same as in 1904, but in the 11 districts where deaths are recorded there was a marked rise in the death-rate from 18·69 to 22·46. To some extent these increases may indicate better registration, though abnormally low birth-rates were returned for Akyab, Rangoon and Kyaukpyu, but there is no doubt that the year was less healthy than its predecessor. Plague broke out in Rangoon in February 1905 and gradually spread to many parts of the country, causing 3,692 deaths, of which two-thirds took place in the capital. Cholera and small-pox were much more prevalent than for some years past and between them carried off 11,508 victims, while deaths from fever, nearly 70,000 in all, were appreciably fewer. A fourth of the total number of deaths took place among children below one year of age.

Emigration and Immigration.

47. A great stimulus was given to immigration and emigration by the extremely low rates of passage money which prevailed during the greater part of the year in consequence of competition between rival steamship companies, and no fewer than 239,000 natives of India landed in the Province. A smaller number made their way back to their homes, and the nett result was an addition of 63,000 aliens to the population.

Medical Relief.

48. The year 1905 witnessed a nett addition of four to the total number of hospitals and dispensaries in the Province and a considerable increase in the number of in-patients. Out-patients also were more by 18,497, but this increase was due to the work done by the medical subordinates on the Moulmein-Pegu Railway and not to increased attendance at the ordinary hospitals. There were indeed signs of a tendency on the part of the sick to avoid seeking medical relief for fear lest their illness should be diagnosed as plague. The ratio of attendance to population averaged 11·5 per cent. for all races, but it varied from less than half that percentage in the case of Burmans to 64·6 in the case of Hindus. The increased prevalence of cholera and small-pox caused a slight rise to 6·2 per cent. in the death-rate among in-patients. More operations were performed and with more success. The Dufferin Maternity Hospital in Rangoon again showed a falling-off in the number of patients treated. The staff of Hospital Assistants was 28 short of the sanctioned number and it was found necessary to borrow men from India to make up the deficiency. The total expenditure increased slightly to 8¾ lakhs.

Sanitation.

49. Expenditure on water-supply, conservancy, drainage and other sanitary measures absorbed 45 per cent. of the total Municipal income during 1905. This proportion was abnormal in consequence of the large outlay incurred during the year in connection with the Hlawga Lake water-supply scheme for Rangoon. Less than five per cent. of the revenue of the District Cess and District Funds was devoted to the cause of sanitation.

Vaccination.

50. The prevalence of small-pox during the year led to a very large increase in the number of vaccinations, both primary and other. The staff of 241 vaccinators performed an average of 1,956 operations each, or 250 more than the average of the smaller number at work in 1904-05, and with the larger percentage of success of 90·8. Re-vaccinations more than doubled and more than half the operations were successful. Medical subordinates in charge of dispensaries again performed more operations. Nearly 22 per cent. of the primary vaccinations were verified by the Native Superintendents and 87·22 per cent. were found to be successful. There was no break in the continuity of the supply of lymph from the Meiktila Vaccine Depôt. The total expenditure during the year rose to Rs. 1,15,000 and the cost of each successful operation fell to four annas nine pies.

Education.

51. The total expenditure on education during the financial year 1905-06 rose by nearly six lakhs to 32¾ of which 19·85 lakhs represent the direct expenditure. Private institutions giving an elementary education increased by 315 to 15,064 with an average attendence of 11·3 pupils. Public institutions rose by 172 or 3 per cent. to 5,932 with an average of 36 pupils each, the majority being primary schools teaching up to the Fourth Standard inclusive. All but 42 of the primary and secondary schools were private institutions, receiving aid from Government or from Local Funds. Four new primary schools were opened by Government to serve as model or practising schools, and 76 private schools started work with the aid of building and equipment grants furnished from the Imperial allotment. Six of the 70 new secondary schools were under direct Government management. The increase took place in the Middle vernacular schools and although the total number of pupils attending secondary schools advanced by 4,393 the rise in the number learning English was only slightly more than a thousand.

Attendance at the High Schools declined and the results of the literary tests were unfavourable, only 60 out of 319 boys examined at the Calcutta University Matriculation examination securing a pass. Rather more students entered for the course at the Rangoon Government College and fewer at the Baptist College, but only 4 out of 18 candidates for the degree of B.A. satisfied the examiners and all but 11 out of 68 who took the First Arts examination failed. The attendance at the Insein Engineering School and at the Normal schools was higher than in the previous year, and more Mahomedans took the course of instruction given at the public schools. Karen schools were both more numerous and better attended and there was a marked rise in the number of Shan schools and scholars in consequence of the increased attention paid to the education of members of this race. The most gratifying feature of the year was the advance in female education. The majority of the girls attended the same schools as boys and in the examinations achieved much better results, 38 out of 42 passing the Eighth Standard examination and 12 out of 31 the Matriculation test. In technical education the Insein Reformatory School again achieved satisfactory success.

52. Nearly three-fourths of a lakh were expended at the instance of the Archæological Department, mainly on the repair and restoration of the spire of the Mandalay Palace and of three buildings of great archæologic interest at Pagan. Some excavation was carried out without much result at Peikthano, an ancient city in Magwe District, a Monograph on Stone Carving at Pagan was written and many inscriptions were collected and deciphered. Eight buildings were added to the list of structures to be maintained at the cost of Government. Archæology.

BURMA SECRETARIAT: }
The 11th December 1906. }

PART II.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references on which this Report on the Administration of Burma is based are noted at the beginning of each Chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department and the Salt Revenue deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1905; the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports and the Season and Crop Report are concerned with the agricultural year, from the 1st July 1905 to the close of June 1906. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1906.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Season and Crop Report for the year ended the 30th June 1906.

POLITICAL—

For information on the foregoing subjects, reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 75 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

Changes in the Administration.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

1. The selection of the Hon'ble Sir H. S. Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., I.C.S., to fill a vacancy on the Council of His Majesty's Secretary of State for India was followed by the appointment as Lieutenant-Governor of Burma of the Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., I.C.S., Chief Judge of the Chief Court of Lower Burma, who assumed charge of the Government on the 9th May 1905 and held it throughout the remainder of the period dealt with in this Report.

Administrative territorial units.

2. No changes were made during the year in divisional or district boundaries, but various reasons dictated minor alterations in township boundaries, while the rapid growth of cultivation and trade in the hitherto backward Toungoo District necessitated the reconstruction of its subdivisions to provide a more equitable distribution of work. In Sagaing the Ava subdivision was abolished and its townships shared between the remaining subdivisions. The policy of assimilating the names of subdivisions and townships with the names of their respective headquarters was kept in view and several changes in this direction were notified.

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Additions to and changes in the Administrative staff.

3. Several important changes in and additions to the staff of officers engaged in the work of administration were either sanctioned or brought into force within the year of report. A difficulty of long standing in the supervision of the Forest Department was removed by the appointment of a Chief Conservator of Forests as head of the department. A scheme was prepared and sanctioned for the establishment of a separate Department of Agriculture, designed to relieve the Department of Land Records of the work which it has hitherto done in connection with agricultural experiments, the introduction of new kinds of cultivation and the improvement of those already in existence, while a third Superintendent was added to the Veterinary Department. In future the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records will have no concern with the economic side of agriculture and the energies of himself, of his Deputy and his Assistant, will be devoted entirely to the heavy work of supervising the settlement operations which are constantly going on in the province as the periods of existing settlement expire and the connected work of survey and supplementary survey which expands every year with the growth of cultivation and the extension of settlements. Far-reaching reforms were in train for the improvement of the Police Force of the Province in accordance with the orders passed by the Government of India on the Report of the Police Commission. Such of them as were brought into force during the year affected only the subordinate establishment and are touched on below in Chapter III; the re-organisation of the superior staff did not come into force till the 1st April 1906. The Provincial Civil Service was re-organised and its numbers increased from 72 to 100, the total extra expenditure involved exceeding 1½ lakhs of rupees a year. A Commissioner of Excise was placed at the head of the Excise Department for the better control of the large establishment which has grown up within the past few years in connection with the revised measures for the enforcement of the opium policy of Government. The large expenditure in progress on the Public Works of the Province necessitated an increase in the Superior Staff of the Public Works Department and an additional Chief Engineer was appointed, while the number of permanent Superintending Engineers was raised from 5 to 7 and of Executive and Assistant Engineers to 82. Four extra appointments were added to the Township Judicial service before the close of 1905 and further additions have been made since that date. Among other changes may be mentioned the creation of the new posts of Assistant Director of Public Instruction and First Assistant Port Officer, Burma, and of a Boiler Commission to supervise and control the administration of the Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Act.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(*i*) *Southern Shan States.*

4. The most memorable event, from a political standpoint, in the history of the 38 States grouped under the charge of the Superintendent of the Southern Shan States and his four divisional officers was the journey made by eight of their chiefs to Rangoon in January 1906 on the occasion of the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales to Burma. The Chiefs were accompanied by representatives of the various tribes over which they rule, none of whom had ever been in Burma before, and they carried back to their hills a vivid recollection of all they had seen and of their gracious reception at the hands of Royalty. They were much impressed by their inspection of the first class cruiser "Terrible", the largest of the three warships which convoyed the battleship "Renown" in which Their Royal Highnesses arrived.

Trans-frontier relations.

5. Friendly relations were maintained throughout the year with the French and Siamese authorities across the frontier and no untoward incidents of importance marred the general peace on the borders.

Internal relations.

6. Within the States, the most serious incident was the murder of the Hsahtung *Myosa* or Chief at the instigation of an uncle who had designs on the succession. The crime was brought home to him and with three confederates he was

condemned to death and executed, while four others were sentenced to transportation for life. In Yawnghwe, with the introduction of a revised revenue settlement scheme and the removal of dishonest officials, the unpopularity of the *Sawbwa* with his people died away and the energy displayed by him in administration was awarded by the grant of a salute of nine guns. The Gambling Act was introduced with certain modifications into the Myelat Division and elsewhere orders were issued restricting public gambling to specified occasions and places.

Domestic calamities.

7. For the people at large the worst calamity of the season was the appearance of rinderpest, which swept through the land and carried off 67,697 head of cattle, disturbing trade and hampering agriculture, besides, incidentally, leading to a considerable increase in the number of cattle thefts. The Salween and Mekong rivers rose to abnormal heights and did much damage to the villages and cultivation along their banks. A destructive fire devastated a whole quarter of Kēngtūng town in May and burned the bazaar and post-office, while the chief towns in two other States suffered severely through fires, which were more than usually common owing to the abnormal heat and the absence of the customary early showers.

Police and Justice.

8. Order was maintained by the new Southern Shan States Battalion of Military Police, by the Government Civil Police Force of 71 men, whose duties were as usual confined to the headquarters of the Political Officers and to others than subjects of the Chiefs, and in the great majority of the States by unpaid service men. In Yawnghwe the *Sawbwa* increased the strength of his police force to 41, but only a poor class of men was obtainable at the small initial pay of Rs. 8 a month and dismissals were numerous. A beginning was made in Lawksawk with the enlistment of 14 men and in Möng Nawng 10 men were employed on fixed monthly salaries. Cases dealt with by the Government Civil and States Police rose from 573 to 740 and were on the whole more successfully handled than in the previous year; in the recovery of stolen property the Civil Police more than doubled the percentage of success in 1904-05 with the high proportion of 76·94. Rather fewer cases were disposed of in the Government Courts, which were increased to seven by the inclusion of the Headquarters Court at Kēngtūng, but the Chiefs dealt with 411 cases as compared with 337 in 1904-05. Appeals fell to 77 and seven of them were pending at the close of the year. Civil suits increased by 70 to 466 in the seven Government Courts and in the Chiefs' Courts; outside Taunggyi and the Yawnghwe State little recourse is had to the Courts. Escapes from lock-ups still continued, but they are expected to diminish with the completion of the new prisons now under construction and with the despatch of long-term prisoners to Burma, where their maintenance in the Government jails without charge in the case of the 29 States with a nett revenue less than Rs. 10,000 has been sanctioned.

Season and Crops.

9. The year was characterised by a partial drought at the beginning, and by heavy floods at the close of the rains, while the usual cold weather showers were absent. In the Northern States of the Myelat Division, the rice crop was only half the normal crop, and everywhere opium, wheat and cotton were comparative failures. In nine of the 14 teak-producing States the forests were worked during the year, in six States by the ruling Chiefs. Five leases were renewed for one year but the Hsahtung lease which fell in on the murder of the *Sawbwa* was not renewed to his successor and with the Mawkai and Möng Pan leases will be granted to a European firm at the close of the current year, the Chiefs receiving 25 per cent. of the profits. Mineral prospectors did some desultory work, but so far as is known accomplished nothing of importance.

Trade.

10. Despite the cattle disease and the fear of plague, the returns of trade with Burma, which are dealt with fully below, showed a large increase, the result of the better system of registration. Trade with Siam and China fell off; receipts from tolls on caravans in Kēngtūng, a form of taxation since abolished, were barely half the estimate and large quantities of raw cotton and opium failed to

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find purchasers. Orders were issued in Kēngtūng to check the wasteful method of tapping rubber trees, and the rubber trade advanced considerably while the cultivation of the camphor tree was encouraged.

Public Works.

11. No less than 11½ lakhs were spent by the Public Works Department during the year, chiefly on roads and the new Military Police quarters at Taunggyi and the new Loi Mwe Civil Station. Much difficulty was experienced in drawing up a road programme for the Chiefs, but the task was finally completed and the work of the year was done in accordance with it. Rather over half a lakh was allotted for road construction in the various States' budgets and Rs. 33,450 of tribute were remitted, mainly in consideration of good work done in this direction in 1904-05. In all some Rs. 56,000 were spent, nearly Rs. 11,000 more than in the previous year, but there was a tendency to neglect the repair of existing roads and to waste money through ignorance of engineering. The liberality of the Government is said to have stimulated private generosity in the Myelat and Rs. 6,850 were subscribed for the construction of public works.

Education and Hospitals.

12. The deputation of a Deputy Inspector of Schools to the Myelat and Central Divisions was productive of much good and arrangements were made for the opening of 11 vernacular schools, the Chiefs paying half the cost. Four schools were opened during the year at the expense of the States and three in Taunggyi and Kēngtūng by missionaries. The Government school at Taunggyi for Shan Chiefs and notables had 74 boys on its rolls, of whom ten only did not belong to the class which the school is intended to benefit. The health of the people was good; plague was fortunately absent and at the three Military Police and five other hospitals, supported by Government at the cost of some Rs. 13,000, nearly 29,000 patients were treated.

Revenue and Expenditure.

13. The gross revenue of the 38 States during the year rose by 1¼ lakhs to 8·95 lakhs; this increase was mainly due to the inclusion of the money value of land revenue paid in kind, though there were considerable advances under all heads of revenue. *Thathameda* as usual contributed the bulk of the receipts and increased by nearly Rs. 29,000, mainly in consequence of the grant of exemption on fixed principles. No less than 22 per cent. ofthe households in the States were exempt, but 13 per cent. consisted of service men, whose exemption was the only payment they received for their services, and relatives of the chiefs. The incidence of taxation from all sources on the assessable houses was Rs. 7. The whole amount of the revenue was spent, the Government tribute absorbing Rs. 3,14,000 and administration and salaries 3½ lakhs. The most marked advance in administration during the year was in Yawnghwe, where the new revenue arrangements not only satisfied the people but brought Rs. 37,000 more into the State treasury. In several States unauthorised collections of revenue continued to be made, but an improvement in this respect is expected when the Eastern division is halved and a fifth division created. The revenue was collected and the tribute paid without difficulty.

(*ii*) *Karenni.*

14. Three of the five Chiefs of the Karen States in the territory known as Karenni were invited to Rangoon to meet the Royal Visitors and they returned with the same feelings as the Shan Chiefs. The States passed a tranquil and prosperous year, despite a severe outbreak of rinderpest which fortunately spared the elephants employed in the extraction of timber, the principal article of trade with the outside world. Fires did considerable damage at the capital towns of Loikaw and Bawlakè. Several important public works were carried out during the year; the Kantarawadi *Sawbwa*, Sawlawi, again displayed much activity in this direction and received remission of half his tribute of Rs. 5,000, while the Bawlakè *Myosa* spent over Rs. 5,000 on rest-houses, roads, bridges and irrigation and undertook the construction of a highway which will cost Rs. 11,500, or more than half the estimated revenue of his State. The remaining three Chiefs likewise did good work, especially if the smallness of their resources is taken into

account. In Loikaw the *Sawbwa* imposed a scavenging-tax of Re. 1 a house and the establishment will be controlled by the Assistant Political Officer. Education remained in much the same condition and although a lay school was opened at Loikaw its success appears to be problematic. Over 8,000 patients were treated at the Government hospital, on which the expenditure during the year slightly exceeded Rs. 1,000.

(*iii*) *Northern Shan States.*

15. In the five States which form the charge of the Superintendent of the Northern Shan States, beyond an attempt, happily unsuccessful, to murder the acting *Sawbwa* of Hsipaw and the burning of Namhsan, the capital of Tawngpeng State, involving destruction of property valued at Rs. 80,000, the year passed without any disturbing incident, either externally or internally. Circumstances prevented the usual meetings with the Chinese Officials, but petty disputes arising out of pony and cattle thefts were settled in conference with representatives sent by the *Sawbwas* of the trans-frontier States. The reservation of rights of cultivation made by the Boundary Commission with a view to obtain natural features as boundaries between British and Chinese territory gave rise to a certain amount of friction, but no serious cases of violence were reported. The Acting *Sawbwa* of Hsipaw, who has since the close of the year been confirmed in his appointment, and two other Notables were invited to Rangoon to meet the Royal Party.

16. In addition to the Military Police of the Northern Shan States Battalion and 65 Civil Police paid for by Government, there were regular police in three out of the five States. Of the 132 men maintained in the Hsipaw State, only 80 were available for general police duty; 12 were on duty as warders at the State Jail and the remainder formed the personal guard of the *Sawbwa*. In Tawngpeng, where a police station with a cage for undertrial prisoners was built, out of 26 men 18 were available for ordinary police work, but the South Hsenwi force of 33 men was employed by the *Sawbwa* on his personal service and did little or no useful work. In all the States, there are service men whose sole remuneration was exemption from revenue. Crime reported to the Police was lighter during the year than in 1904-05 and was better dealt with, so far as can be gathered from figures. On the other hand the number of cases tried by the 6 Government Magistrates and by the State Courts rose from 450 to 484 and out of 736 persons whose cases were disposed of no fewer than 304 were acquitted or discharged, mainly by the Government Magistrates. Crimes of violence were more numerous but cattle thefts decreased; most of the acquittals and discharges were in cases of petty crime and were due to the tendency in the Kachin tract to take disputes of a civil character to the criminal courts and in Lashio and Hsipaw to the proneness of the Natives of India there to lay false and reckless charges. Rules regulating arms and explosives were promulgated in Tawngpeng and South Hsenwi while Excise and Opium regulations were also adopted in the former State. Civil suits filed during the year numbered 434 as compared with 362; the increase was mainly in the Court of the Additional Judge, Hsipaw, where in all 237 cases were initiated. Except to a very small extent in Hsipaw, the Shans made little or no use of the Civil Courts, which were chiefly used as debt-collecting agencies by Native of India traders. In Tawngpeng a competent judge was appointed and the suits filed rose from 6 to 32. Only 65 cases were initiated in the five courts presided over by Government Officers.

Police and Justice.

17. The rainfall was light and the paddy crop was below the average, but practically every other crop did well and 49 tons of potatoes were sent to Burma from Nawnghkio Railway station. Wheat was again tried and some fair results obtained where proper care was taken in the cultivation. The tea crop was exceedingly good and its cultivation largely extended, no fewer than 10,000 fresh plants having been planted by a single village in Tawngpeng. The chief calamity that overtook the cultivators during the year was the outbreak of rinderpest, which carried off a large number of cattle, over 12,000 being the estimate for

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the Hsipaw State where advances were issued for the replacement of the losses. Little work was done by mineral prospectors and the report of the Government Geologist on the Hsipaw coal was so discouraging that the idea of working it has been abandoned.

Trade.

18. Trade between the Northern Shan States and Burma is dealt with in paragraph 139 below. Its most noticeable feature was the large extent of the traffic in tea. With a view to revive the former trade in this commodity with Siam, the Straits Settlements and Hongkong, samples were sent to a Chinese firm in Rangoon but the result was not known at the close of the year. Trade with China, carried on by Chinese caravans and pedlars, was brisk and the export of buffaloes was unusually large.

Public Works.

19. Expenditure on Public Works, all provided by the State Funds, amounted to 2·11 lakhs and almost half of this considerable sum was spent in the Hsipaw State. The difficulty experienced was not to find funds but to carry out the work for which funds had been provided and except in the Hsipaw State, where there was a competent official in charge of Public Works construction, everything had to be done by a Government Officer. Remissions amounting to Rs. 65,000 or half the total tribute payable were granted for public works expenditure in all but the Manglün State, and at the close of the year over a lakh of rupees was in deposit for expenditure on public works in Tawngpeng and North and South Hsenwi, while the large surplus in Hsipaw was hypothecated for the completion of the bridge under construction by the Public Works Department over the Nam Tu River.

Hospitals and Education.

20. The number of patients treated at the various Military Police and Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries, maintained at a cost slightly under Rs. 20,000, was below 25,000, a fall of more than 2,000 as compared with the previous year, which is attributed in part to the decrease of malaria, consequent on the lighter rainfall, and in part to the fear of plague, which kept people away from the Railway line. In addition, several patients were treated at the mission hospital at Namkham. There was no epidemic during the year, which, if unhealthy for animals, was healthy for human beings. The fear of plague induced greater attention to cleanliness in the railway towns and in Hsipaw itself a small scavenging establishment was entertained. Education received an impetus from the appointment of a Deputy Inspector of Schools who visited in all 48 schools after his arrival on the 15th December. Seven schools were registered under the Education Code and the *Sawbwas* of Tawngpeng and South Hsenwi agreed to give an allotment for education, while the grant from the Hsipaw State is being increased. The Mission schools at Namkham and Hsipaw largely increased the number of pupils on their rolls, a result which is attributed in the case of the Hsipaw school to the exclusion of religious teaching.

Revenue and Expenditure.

21. The year opened with a balance at the credit of the five States of Rs. 88,000 and 8·65 lakhs were collected, of which 8·24 lakhs represented the ordinary revenue collected on account of the year. Expenditure amounted to 8·36 lakhs and the year closed with a balance in hand of Rs. 1,17,565. *Thathameda* contributed 4¾ lakhs of the whole revenue, tea gardens, in Hsipaw and Tawngpeng only, coming next with 1·35 lakhs, followed by fees from bazaar and other licenses with 1·16 lakhs, most of which is claimed by Hsipaw where receipts from this source increased largely during the year. On the expenditure side the heaviest item is the cost of public works which absorbed 2·11 lakhs, followed by the cost of General Administration with 1·94 lakhs. In Hsipaw, the estate of the late *Sawbwa* was wound up and the balance left after paying his debts, some Rs. 29,000, was distributed to his heirs. The debts of the acting *Sawbwa* were finally cleared off within the year. The only serious flaw in the year's administration was the embezzlement by four officials of Rs. 7,132. Three of these were punished but the fourth absconded. In Tawngpeng, where the finances of the State were taken in hand by Government, a revenue and treasury establishment organised and a new

judge appointed, there was a large increase in the *thathameda* collections, due to proper checking of the rolls and a striking advance in the receipts from the export tax on tea, on which the prosperity of the State depends, consequent on a better system of collection. Rupees 45,000 were paid towards the liquidation of the *Sawbwa's* debts, which up to the end of March had been satisfied to the extent of 1·23 lakhs, and although a large sum still remains due, the finances of the State are now in a thoroughly sound position. In North Hsenwi the only blot on the year's administration was a failure to exercise a due check on the preparation of the *thathameda*-rolls. Since the close of the year, the revenue administration of the Kotaik circles of the State, which for some time had been under the direct control of the Superintendent, was again entrusted to the *Sawbwa*. In South Hsenwi, receipts from gambling licenses granted at festivals were for the first time brought to account and regular monthly salaries paid to officials. Here, too, the checking of the *thathameda*-rolls was inadequate.

(*iv*) *Möngmit, Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkamti.*

22. The two small Shan States of Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkamti passed an uneventful year, although the former suffered like the surrounding Upper Chindwin District North of Kalewa from the high rise of the Chindwin River and from an outbreak of cholera. On the other hand, the State practically escaped the cattle disease which was prevalent in the surrounding villages. The Möngmit State continued to be administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines District up to the end of the year of report. The revenue collected amounted to 1¼ lakhs and the expenditure, including two years tribute to Government at Rs. 20,000 a year, to 1·42 lakhs, while there was a balance of Rs. 80,000 in hand at the close of the year. The increase in receipts was mainly due to the collection of arrears of Kachin tribute in the Kodaung Hill Tracts, while the expenditure was swelled by heavy payments on public works (over Rs. 22,000) as well as by the double tribute. Good work in checking opium smuggling was done by the Kachin police in the Hill Tracts. Public health and the harvest were good, there was little crime and the loss of cattle from disease was comparatively small.

(*v*) *The Chin Hills.*

23. The only event of note in the history of the Chin Hills during the year 1905-06 was the despatch of an expedition to the village of Wellaung in unadministered territory to exact satisfaction for the murder of two villagers of Lungno. It was fortunately found possible to get into touch with the offending villagers beforehand and the column was allowed to enter unopposed. The fine and compensation demanded were duly paid and four of the ringleaders were deported and detained for six months. At the same time punishment was meted out to the Lungno Chief for his action in carrying off four persons from a village in unadministered territory which had refused to comply with his illegal demand of a tax on lac. There were no inter-tribal or inter-village feuds and relations with the Lushai Hills and Manipur remained satisfactory. Arrangements were made for an annual meeting between the Manipur and Chin Hills officials for the settlement of disputes between their respective tribes and the Chiefs of unadministered territory were invited to take advantage of the presence of an official in their neighbourhood to lay before him any complaints against villages in the administered territory. Crime was very light and there was a considerable decrease in the number of Civil suits filed before the five courts presided over by Government Officers in the Hills. The decline is attributed to the growing confidence in the decisions of the Chiefs, who are now more frequently referred to in case of dispute. Except in some of the Southern villages the crops were good, but so far the Chins showed little sign of taking to less primitive methods of cultivation. Seventeen unstamped guns were produced during the year and all the stamped guns, 1,654 in number, were checked. When the withdrawal of guns now in progress in the Transfrontier Manipur villages is complete, it is expected that the introduction of fresh firearms will become well nigh impossible. Increasing recourse was had by the Chins to the Government Hospitals, the total number

The Chin Hills Proper.

CHAP. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

treated having risen from 17,558 in the previous year to 24,211. There were seven deaths from cholera, but none from plague or small-pox. A large trade in lac was carried on and it was found necessary to take steps to prevent the wholesale felling of trees resorted to by the Chins in their eagerness to extract the maximum profit in the shortest period. Education made some advance and new mission schools were opened in two villages close to Falam, the administrative headquarters. The amount of tribute collected at the rate of Rs. 2 per house, Rs. 42,000, was practically the same as in 1904-05; other items of revenue were petty. Communications were kept open and improved, but only one road of 8 miles in length, to shorten the way to Haka, the headquarters of an Assistant Superintendent, was constructed, the bulk of the expenditure being devoted to buildings.

Pakôkku Chin Hills.

24. No event of note took place in the Pakôkku Chin Hills. Relations with trans-border tribes were good and raids and inter-village fighting were fortunately absent. One village was again disarmed for six months for its failure, resulting in a fight and bloodshed, to obey an order that persons attending a feast should not carry weapons. Criminal cases under the Indian Penal Code fell from 23 in 1904-05 to 6 in the year of report, a satisfactory reduction which is attributed to the good patrol work of the Chin Police and the enforcement of the orders prohibiting the carrying of arms at feasts. Civil suits, too, were somewhat fewer. Despite somewhat excessive rainfall, the crops were good and the small tribute, amounting in all to Rs. 2,773, was collected without difficulty by the headmen. Financial reasons forbid any large expenditure on public works, but a new road was made from Mindat-Sakan, the headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent, to Yeshin.

Arakan Hill Tracts.

25. The year was marked by a complete absence of border raids and of serious crime in the area under the control of the Deputy Commissioner of the Arakan Hill Tracts, although in the unadministered territory beyond the border raids and counter-raids were as numerous as usual. The annual durbar for the wild Chins in the Minbya Township of the Akyab District was held by the Deputy Commissioner of that district at Ponthawa. In Kyaukpyu the remainder of a gang of outlaws was exterminated. The question of dealing with the unadministered territory surrounded by the Chin Hills, the Lushai Hills and the Arakan and Chittagong Hill Tracts was discussed with the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam and it was decided that so far as concerns Burma the need for action was not pressing and that so long as the unadministered tribes did not raid administered territory, they might be left to themselves.

The Kachin Hills.

26. On the Bhamo portion of the North-Eastern Frontier there was no disturbance of the peace; outstanding feuds were settled and measures were taken for the encouragement of trade by the suppression of petty thefts and the establishment of inns along the route between Bhamo and Têngyüeh. In the Myitkyina District there were two raids and several Kachins from the British side of the border were carried off into Chinese territory; they were subsequently restored on representations being made to the Chinese authorities who secured the payment of an indemnity in one case and undertook to maintain two frontier posts for the purpose of checking such raids in future. Sixteen chiefs from the Hukong Valley and six others paid a visit to the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, and proferred their assistance in the suppression of raids and smuggling and slavery; the friendly attitude of the chiefs of the unadministered tribes holds out a prospect of decreased crime in future. Within the Myitkyina Hill Tracts, despite an increase of ordinary crime, slavery cases decreased and 154 new guns were registered during the year. The system there in force of granting passes for opium taken through administered territory from one hill tract to another worked smoothly and its extension to Katha is considered necessary. Several new roads were opened up in the Myitkyina Hill Tracts, but work in Bhamo and Katha was confined to improvement and repair of the existing roads. Cordial relations were maintained throughout the year with the Chinese authorities across the border. The lamented death of Mr. Litton, His Majesty's Consul at Têngyüeh, was a serious loss to this

Government. Slightly more tribute was collected in all three districts, Bhamo returning Rs. 17,918, Myitkyina Rs. 18,107 and Katha Rs. 2,711. Rupees 250 were remitted in Myitkyina for good work on frontier roads and a punitive rate of Rs. 3 a house was levied in only 3 villages. Civil cases filed during the year numbered 277 as compared with 287 in the previous year; none of them was of particular interest. The extraction of rubber in the Hukong Valley continued to increase and the revenue derived from it in the shape of duty rose from Rs. 29,745 to Rs. 38,625.

Condition of the People.

27. The year of the report, taken as a whole, was not a prosperous year for agriculture, which is by far the most important industry of the province. Not only was the rainfall unseasonable, but there was an unusual amount of flooding, cattle disease was more than ordinarily virulent and plague, so long kept out of the province, spread far and wide. The collection of revenue was not quite so easy as in a good year, more processes were required to bring it in and outstandings were heavier than in a normal year. Mortgages of land were more common and the large increase in the number of civil suits taken in conjunction with the known fact of damage to crops, indicates that ready money was not so plentiful as usual. On the other hand there are no grounds for supposing that the condition of the people has in any way changed for the worse; even in its poorest parts the province is too rich to be materially affected by a year of which the most that can be said is that it failed to add its proportionate share to the increasing wealth of the country.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ended the 30th June 1906.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ended the 30th June 1906.

Twenty-second issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1901-02 to 1905-06, Volume I, Tables V, V-A and B and VI, VI-A and B.

Realisation of the Revenue.

Demand, Recoveries, Remissions, and Outstandings.

28. The arrear demand of less than three-fourths of a lakh of land revenue was all collected or remitted during the year of report. The current demand rose by over 8 lakhs to 2 crores 41½ lakhs, but the amount realised before the end of June, Rs. 2,28,65,973, was less by Rs. 1,16,731 than the collections of the smaller current demand for the previous year and by an almost identical amount the outstandings on the 30th June 1906 exceeded the (revised) arrear demand at the beginning of the year. No less than 11 lakhs and Rs. 1,001 of the demand had to be remitted, mainly owing to the destruction of crops by floods in four Lower Burma districts. In Hanthawaddy, floods on an unprecedented scale submerged the area to the north and west of Rangoon and lasted so long that the paddy plants over nearly 200,000 acres were drowned, necessitating land revenue remissions falling little short of 6½ lakhs. In the adjoining district of Tharrawaddy, over 1½ lakhs of the demand had to be foregone for the same reason, and the loss in Ma-ubin District, which marches with Hanthawaddy along the main stream of the Irrawaddy River, was only half a lakh less. In Thatôn, the fourth main contributor to the loss with Rs. 59,555, the damage was due to incursions of sea-water and attacks of insect pests. For the unusually large sum outstanding at the close of the year (Rs. 1,87,482), the two districts of Hanthawaddy and Mandalay are mainly responsible; much of the arrears of Rs. 88,876 due from the former district represent demand from the flooded area for which no remission was asked, while in Mandalay the outstandings of Rs. 37,320 are ascribed rather to delay in commencing collection than to difficulty experienced in collection itself.

Land revenue in the unsettled districts of Upper Burma continued to be included in the *thathameda* or household tax, but as it no longer forms, as it once did, the main portion of that tax, it is dealt with more appropriately in Chapter V of this Report, along with Fishery and Miscellaneous Land Revenue.

Coercive processes.

29. The unpropitious character of the year from an agricultural standpoint is most strongly brought out by the considerable increase which took place in the number of coercive processes required to collect the revenue of all kinds. Notices of demand, the simplest form of official pressure, were employed in 40,766 cases, or 7,729 more than in the previous year; 11,611 warrants of arrest were issued, an advance of 218 only, but 4,217 persons, or 835 above the total of 1904-05, were actually arrested, and of these 80, as compared with 62, were committed to jail for failure to pay. Fifty-nine of these commitments were made in the small and unimportant district of Sandoway, where imprisonment of opium consumers for failure to pay capitation-tax is frequently necessary. Movable property was attached in 6,927 cases, or nearly 2,200 more than in the previous year, but only in the very small number of 294 cases was it found necessary to sell the goods seized. Yet even this insignificant total was 96 more than in 1904-05. Warrants of attachment of immovable property were issued in 13,486 instances, as compared with 9,633 in the year before and in 1,955 cases, an increase of more than 50 per cent., the property seized was disposed of by sale. It must be remembered that many, perhaps the majority of, warrants for the attachment of immovable property are issued in respect of newly cleared land, which for some reason or other has failed to produce a crop and has, therefore, been abandoned by the squatters who

tilled it. The total amount of arrears for realisation of which process issued, 11⅓ lakhs, was only slightly more than in 1904-05, but the percentage of recoveries fell from 87 to 78, and in one district, Myaungmya, was below 41.

Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to survey.

30. Further progress was made during the year with the demarcation preliminary to survey of the Minhla Township of the Thayetmyo District, the two Demarcation Officers completing 670 square miles in 5½ months at a cost of Rs. 2,370. Fifty square miles in Akyab were demarcated by the Land Records Staff of the district, and 30 square miles in the unsettled tracts of Pegu by members of the special party appointed to make the survey. Finally much demarcation work was done in connection with the special town surveys in progress all over the Province.

Surveys by Imperial Agency.

31. The cadastral survey of the Pakôkku District engaged the whole strength of Survey of India Party No. 7 during the year; 554 square miles were traversed and 1,109 square miles (including 61 square miles of river bed) surveyed in detail at a total cost of Rs. 1,08,092 thus leaving for survey only 529 square miles out of 3,248 traversed. The maps of the area within the Rangoon Municipal boundaries surveyed in 1904-05 were completed and traverse charts for the whole of Burma prepared.

Surveys by Provincial Agency:—(i) Original Surveys.

32. A large amount of survey was carried on during the year by special parties, unconnected with the Survey of India Department, recruited in the Province. A commencement was made in Akyab on the original survey for revenue assessment purposes of 170 square miles, estimated to contain some 55,000 acres of cultivation, but for various reasons the progress made by the special party under the guidance of the Superintendent of Land Records was slow and the season's outturn, at a cost of Rs. 10,998, was the cadastral survey of only 28 square miles with 12,483 acres under cultivation. The recess work of the special surveys carried out in the field season of 1904-05 in Katha, Tavoy and Mergui was completed during the year under review, and schemes were prepared for new surveys in Kyaukpyu, Sandoway and Tharrawaddy. In most districts in the Province large scale (64 inch to the mile) surveys of towns by special parties were in progress or under contemplation during the year and much advance was made with the scheme for improving the administration of town lands. The work of survey was completed in the towns of the Pegu, Bassein, Kyaukpyu, Amherst and Minbu Districts. Many of the towns dealt with had previously been surveyed, but no attempt had ever been made to keep the maps up to date and the work had to be redone from the beginning. Special establishments were engaged for the re-survey of the valuable fisheries in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn Districts, but progress was slow and the bulk of the work remained undone at the close of the year. Applications for grants or leases of land for cultivation were again much fewer than in the previous year and the extra establishments (aggregating 12 Inspectors and 84 surveyors) required to survey the areas applied for cost only Rs. 23,317, or roughly three-fourths of the amount paid in as survey fees, the cost in 1904-05 having been Rs. 44,607. In all 6,012 cases were dealt with and 49,114 acres surveyed as compared with 9,064 cases and 69,052 acres in the previous year.

Surveys by Provincial Agency:—(ii) Revision Surveys.

33. The recess work of the special parties which were engaged during 1904-05 on revision survey in four Lower and two Upper Burma districts fell within the year under review. Particulars of their employment are given in paragraph 20 of the Report for 1904-05 and the only matter for note here is that it was found necessary to entertain the Mandalay establishment for two months longer than was anticipated at an extra cost of Rs. 860. During 1905-06 four special survey establishments were at work on the revision of cadastral survey maps, which the regular Land Records staff had been unable to keep up to date by reason of the rapid extension of cultivation since the original survey. The largest of these

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parties worked under the supervision of a specially deputed Superintendent of Land Records in the Irrawaddy Division, first in the parts of the Ma-ubin and Myaungmya Districts in which the Revision Settlement Officer was engaged and then in the townships of the Pyapôn District in which revision assessment operations are at present in progress. The strength of the party was practically the same as that engaged in the division in 1904-05; the maps of an area of 774 square miles with 330,850 acres under cultivation were revised at a total cost of Rs. 71,234, but even this large outturn of work fell short of the total area for revision by 18,768 acres of cultivation. In the Pegu District, where the second special party, also under the charge of a special officer, was employed, re-survey was required not in connection with revision settlement operations, but for annual assessment purposes, the greater part of the cultivation in the area dealt with being of date subsequent to the year of the original survey. The work done extended over 243 square miles containing 136,823 acres under cultivation, the average size of each field being under half an acre, and the cost of the work Rs. 44,492. Small establishments working under the District Superintendents of Land Records re-surveyed 59 square miles, with 34,396 acres under cultivation in Amherst, and 75 square miles, comprising 36,747 acres under paddy and gardens in Thatôn, the outlay involved being respectively Rs. 14,465 and Rs. 17,849.

The annual re-survey, for the purpose of calculating the revenue, of the cultivation on the shifting islands in the beds of the Irrawaddy and Chindwin Rivers was, as usual, carried out by a special staff in the Mandalay, Sagaing, Myingyan and Lower Chindwin Districts. Over 50,000 acres were thus surveyed at a cost of Rs. 3,963.

Settlements.

Regular Original Settlements.

34. Three parties were engaged on regular original settlement work during the year. The Lower Burma party moved from Tavoy to Mergui in October 1905 and revised rates of land revenue, based on the Settlement Officer's enquiries, were prescribed for the former district, the total demand for the 110,990 acres under cultivation being raised by Rs. 69,815 or 34·75 per cent. The cost of the operations (Rs. 51,167) came to $7\frac{1}{4}$ annas for each cultivated acre, nearly thrice the average cost in the districts of the Irrawaddy Delta, consequent on the scattered nature of the cultivation. In Upper Burma the long protracted original settlements of Shwebo and Katha came to an end and their settlement parties were transferred to Pakôkku and the Lower Chindwin Districts respectively. The expenditure incurred up to the close of the year amounted to Rs. 4,93,752 in the case of Shwebo, or an average of $10\frac{3}{4}$ annas for each of the 739,932 acres under cultivation, and to Rs. 2,14,720 for the 135,368 acres of tilled land in the mountainous and difficult district of Katha.

Summary Original Settlements.

35. Revised assessment rates were sanctioned during the year for the 35,242 acres of cultivation in the Kyaukpyu District summarily settled in the previous season; they will raise the demand by Rs. 11,867 or 27·22 per cent. The Summary Settlement Party then proceeded to deal with 120 square miles, with 15,590 acres of cultivation in the adjoining district of Sandoway. The total expenditure incurred there up to the end of the season was Rs. 4,616.

Revision Settlements.

36. Two revision settlement parties were at work during the year. The Lower Burma party completed the recess work in connection with the re-assessment of the Ma-ubin District outside the Ma-ubin township and then transferred operations to that township and to parts of the adjoining Pyapôn and Myaungmya Districts. The result of the previous season's work was an enhancement of the rates of land revenue, calculated to yield an increase of Rs. 2,01,208 or 31·70 per cent. of the previous demand on an area of 285,150 acres under cultivation. The total cost of the enquiries on which this large enhancement was based amounted to Rs. 48,215 or $2\frac{3}{4}$ annas an acre.

The Upper Burma Revision party was simultaneously engaged in two far apart districts during the year; in Mandalay it dealt with the area irrigated by the

new Mandalay canal, where the system hitherto followed in Burma of determining a single rate representing both land revenue and water-rate was discarded for the first time in favour of the more scientific system of determining each separately; in Minbu it proceeded with the enquiries necessary to revise rates of assessment which were the first to be fixed on the lines now adopted in dealing with Upper Burma settlements. CHAP. II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

37. The total expenditure incurred on the six settlement parties, regular, summary and revision, at work during the year under review was Rs. 3,38,803, or rather more than in the previous year. The total increase in the land revenue demand resulting from settlement enquiries on which orders were passed was only Rs. 2,82,890 as compared with nearly 5½ lakhs in 1904-05. General.

Land Records.

38. The extension of supplementary survey to the Palè and Kani townships of the Lower Chindwin District and to newly surveyed areas in Katha, Tavoy, Mergui, Kyaukpyu and Kyauksè added 815 square miles to the total area (43,652 square miles) covered by the operations of the Land Records Department. The acreage assessed during the year, over eleven millions, was nearly half a million above the total for 1904-05, but over four-fifths of the increase was due to the inclusion for the first time of the assessed portion of the newly settled Magwe District. Every Lower Burma district shows an increase in the area assessed, but the combined effect of their advances was to a great extent neutralised by a decline of nearly 140,000 acres in the districts of Myingyan and the Lower Chindwin. The total assessment rose by 9½ lakhs to well-nigh 2½ crores of rupees; of this increase 4½ lakhs represent the contribution of the newly added area from Magwe, while Hanthawaddy and Myaungmya Districts between them produced four lakhs more, due in the former district to the assessment of extensions of cultivation and in the latter to enhanced rates consequent on a revision settlement. The vagaries of the season affected the Upper Burma districts in different ways, Meiktila and Yamèthin alone showing an improvement not due to an increase in the area under supplementary survey. Area under Supplementary Survey.

39. The total cost of the Land Records establishment rose by over half a lakh to Rs. 10,71,867, of which almost four lakhs constituted the remuneration of Superintendents and Inspectors. This sum represents 4·3 per cent. of the assessment, as compared with 4·25 in 1904-05. Five new Inspectors and 62 extra surveyors were engaged, chiefly in Ma-ubin, Pyapôn and the Lower Chindwin Districts. The superior staff continued to be overworked; one officer on furlough had to be recalled to duty and in most instances applications for leave had to be refused. The subordinate staff for the most part worked well though late submission of assessment rolls was the rule rather than the exception. One Inspector in Yamèthin was sentenced to five years' rigorous imprisonment for giving forged maps to cultivators and 25 surveyors were dismissed or removed as against 37 in the previous year. Cost of Supplementary Survey.

40. The average number of pupils on the rolls of the 18 Government Survey Schools maintained in the Province for the supply of surveyors for the Land Records Department again declined and on the 31st March 1906 there were 402, of whom 141 were free pupils, as compared with 414 twelve months before. Scholarships were awarded to 212 pupils or more than half of the total number. The gross expenditure on the schools, Rs. 38,318, was Rs. 1,220 less than in the previous year, the saving occurring chiefly under the head of "Establishment" and the nett cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 81 or Rs. 3 less. The number of passes obtained at the Educational Syndicate's examinations in Surveying, Arithmetic and Revenue Law compared favourably with the results of the two previous years. Survey Schools.

41. The unfavourable nature of the year is clearly reflected in the Land Transfer Registers of the Land Records Department, which show an increase of Transfers of land.

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nearly 80,000 acres over the total for 1904-05 in the area (467,326 acres) mortgaged during the year and at its end an addition of 184,000 acres to the total area under mortgage, which in consequence nearly touched twelve hundred thousand acres. At the same time there was a rise of over Rs. 2 an acre to Rs. 32·2 in the average mortgage value of the land. Outright sales took place in regard to 542,160 acres at an average price of Rs. 42·39 or Rs. 4·05 more than in the previous year when the area sold was practically the same. Floods and cattle disease are the causes usually assigned for the increased number of mortgages and allowance for variations in the accuracy of registration must always be made till such time as the obligation to report transfers is extended universally. Various reasons are given for the rise in sale price; in Toungoo District it is ascribed to the land boom in the Pyu township, where the spread of cultivation has been such as to necessitate the constitution of a new subdivision; in Henzada an increase of Rs. 10 an acre is explained by the construction of the new railway north from Henzada to Kyangin.

Waste Lands.

Grants and Leases for cultivation.

42. Only 53,394 acres of waste land were granted or leased for cultivation within the year, less than half the area disposed of two years before. This decline is due mainly to the growing tendency to exercise no interference with the free occupation of the waste. No leases at all were issued in the Meiktila Division or in the three Upper Burma districts of the Minbu Division, and only a small area was granted in the Pegu Division of Lower Burma, where the experiment of temporarily suspending the issue of grants entered on its second year. It is reported that, on the whole, land is taken up more quickly under the new system, that the occupiers are genuine cultivators and that disputes, so far from increasing in the absence of documentary title, have proved exceptional. The heavy decline in the districts where the land hunger was greatest in 1904-05 is, however, attributed to special causes and not to any distaste for grants; in Amherst the district staff lacked the help of the two special officers deputed for grant work in the previous year, and in Toungoo and Pyapôn there was a falling off in the amount of survey work done by the special staffs of surveyors employed in mapping the land applied for. Tavoy and Mergui show a considerable increase, attributed in the case of Mergui to the grant of leases for rubber cultivation under new rules issued in April 1906. The cultivation of rubber in Burma, for long confined to the Government Experimental Garden in Mergui, seems at last to have been taken seriously in hand and one Rangoon firm has already over 1,000 acres planted out near Shwegyin in the Toungoo District.

Revenue-free grants.

43. The area granted free of revenue for the erection of religious edifices, 189 acres, was slightly more than in the previous year, while revenue-free grants for public purposes aggregated 1,054 acres or 454 more than in 1904-05, Katha alone contributing 670 acres, the total area of land assigned up to the end of the year for the support of village headmen.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

44. There are no Government or Wards' estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Land revenue-paying classes.

45. Nearly 15 per cent. of the total occupied area for which statistics are available is in the hands of non-agriculturists and of these more than three-fifths do not reside in the village where the land is situate. The figures for the year under review were less favourable to agriculturists than those of 1904-05, for roughly six out of every 17 acres of the extra area (423,962 acres) shown as occupied was in the hands of the non-cultivating classes. During recent years attempts have from time to time been made to check the tendency of land to pass out of the hands of the actual cultivators by evicting non-agriculturists from holdings to which their

title against Government was not complete, but no regularly sustained action was taken to this end and in the great majority of cases the transfer of land was permitted to go on unhindered. In 1903 it was suggested that a special enquiry should be conducted into the tenure of all lands in the hands of non-agriculturists in the Delta Districts of Lower Burma with a view to their eviction where deemed expedient. In the year of report, this suggestion was negatived, but orders have since been issued prescribing a procedure whereby all fresh instances of the acquisition of land by non-agriculturists shall come under scrutiny as they take place.

Tenants.

46. The area let at full rents to tenants rose by 92,501 acres only to 2,319,131, the number of tenants at the same time increasing by 8,087. The average area of each tenancy remained practically the same at a little under 13 acres and the average rent paid per acre rose very slightly to Rs. 9·87. The proportion of tenants who had rented the same land continuously for five years and over advanced appreciably, but even now forms barely 15 per cent. of the whole.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1905.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1905.
Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1905.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1905.
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the year 1905.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1906.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1906.
Report on Government steamers, vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1905-06.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1906.
Fortieth issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign countries in the year ending the 31st March 1906 and the four preceding years, Volume II, Tables, 1, 2, 6, 7, 10 and 11.
Fortieth issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India in the year ending the 31st March 1906, Tables 2 to 7.
Report of the Commissioners of the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1906.
Eleventh issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06 and preceding years—Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

47. The constitution of the Legislating Authority of the Province is described in paragraphs 106 to 109 of the Report for 1901-02.

Course of Legislation.

Acts passed.

48. The four Bills described in paragraphs 33 to 37 of the Report for 1904-05 became law during the year as Burma Acts I, II, III and IV of 1905. Several Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government and four, the provisions of which are summarised below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council in December 1905 and have since become law.

The object of the Burma Motor-vehicles Act is to provide for the regulation of the use of motor-vehicles in streets and public places in Burma. It is framed on the lines of the Bengal Motor-car and Cycle Act, 1903.

The Act further to amend the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, confers on municipal committees power to make bye-laws retaining the right to a monopoly in respect of the establishment of new markets for the sale of meat, fish, fruit, vegetables or live stock in a municipality, in addition to the previous power to regulate any new markets which they decide to permit. Such a monopoly is in accordance with Burmese custom, and the Calcutta Corporation has similar powers under sections 480 and 481 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899. The Act also enlarges the power to prescribe standard weights and measures by conferring the power to frame bye-laws making the use of such standards compulsory and for preventing and detecting the use of false weights and measures. Additional powers of entry, arrest and seizure are conferred for such purposes and also for the detection of the illicit slaughter of animals, and a new section 114A, drafted on the lines of section 306 of the Calcutta Municipal Act, 1899, will enable the Committee to require buildings or lands to be more efficiently drained.

The Act to amend the Burma Forest Act, 1902, substitutes a new section for section 58 of the Act in order to increase the penalty for an offence under section 31, if committed in respect of a teak or other reserved tree on land at the disposal of Government, to imprisonment which may extend to six months or fine

extending to five hundred rupees or both, whilst retaining the smaller penalty previously allowed in the case of a like offence committed in respect of a teak tree on private land. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

The Act to amend the Rangoon Port Act, 1905, effected a formal amendment for fixing the term of office of elected Port Commissioners.

49. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year— General Acts affecting Burma.

I. An Act further to amend the Local Authorities' Loan Act, 1879. [The Local Authorities' Loan (Amendment) Act, 1905.]
II. An Act to validate action taken under the Indian Universities Act, 1904. [The Indian Universities (Validation) Act, 1905.]
III. An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Government Paper Currency. (The Indian Paper Currency Act, 1905.)
IV. An Act to provide for investing the Railway Board with certain powers or functions under the Indian Railway Act, 1890. (The Indian Railway Board Act, 1905.)
VI. An Act further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870. [The Court Fees (Amendment) Act, 1905.]

50. Certain provisions of the Burma Municipal Act, 1898 (Burma Act III of 1898), as amended by Burma Act III of 1902, were extended to the notified areas of Lashio and Taunggyi in the Shan States. Extension of Enactments to the Shan States.

Police.

51. The improvements in the pay of the lower ranks of the Civil Police Force recommended by the Police Commission took effect from the 1st April 1905. Deductions from pay ceased, the salary of the lowest grade of constables was raised from Rs. 9-11-0 to Rs. 12 and an increment of Rs. 2 was given to all constables of three years' service and over in receipt of less than Rs. 14 a month, while the provision of a Sub-Inspector for each police-station on rates of pay from Rs. 40 upwards benefited many sergeants on considerably lower salaries. Progress was made with schemes for other reforms and pending the erection of permanent buildings at Mandalay, existing edifices at Toungoo were adapted for the temporary housing of the new training school for Police Officers. The number of gazetted officers was increased by four on the arrival of four Probationary Assistant Superintendents from England. Police Commission Reforms.

52. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police Force outside the city of Rangoon on the 31st December 1905 was 1,659 officers and 11,877 men, or 36 officers and 150 men more than in 1904, distributed over 485 police-stations and 215 outposts; the actual strength was 19 officers and 653 men less. The higher pay referred to in the last paragraph swelled the total expenditure on the force (41½ lakhs of rupees) by nearly Rs. 2,50,000. Strength and distribution.

53. Recruitment continued to be unsatisfactory in many districts, more particularly in the sparsely populated Upper Chindwin and Mergui Districts. More men were punished than in 1904 and no fewer than 550 officers and men were dismissed the force, while the total number who received rewards (1901) remained much the same. Desertions, deaths and admissions into hospital were considerably more numerous than in 1904 and there were also more resignations. Taken as a whole these figures are not encouraging, but it is hoped that the higher rates of pay now in force will attract a superior class of men. Recruitment and conduct.

54. Ninety-three per cent. of the officers and over 85 per cent. of the men who comprise the force can read and write. The most backward district is Mergui where more than half the men are illiterate. Satisfactory percentages of old constables and recruits qualified at the district training schools, but casualties Education and training.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

among the recruits who entered the depôts were unusually heavy (22 per cent. as compared with 14 per cent. in 1904). The results of the quarterly examinations for certificates were 11 per cent. better than in 1904, but those of musketry training were very poor and in five districts the late issue of ammunition consequent on re-armament rendered it impossible to put the men through any course.

Buildings.

55. The important question of housing the force received due attention during the year especially in the new Pyapôn District, although the construction of several buildings for which provision had been made in the Budget was deferred pending the revision of the standard plans necessitated by the changes recommended by the Police Commission.

Cognizable crime.

56. There was again a rise of 4 per cent. in the number of true cases of cognizable crime dealt with by the Police, but as a matter of fact the increase over the figures for 1904 was considerably larger, Excise cases in many districts having been shown as non-cognizable. If all cases under special or local laws, offences against religion, public nuisances, vagrancy and bad character be excluded, cases were more by 3,056, or 12 per cent. than in 1904. In some measure this result may be attributed to the greater activity of the police, especially in Pegu District, which is responsible for nearly a third of the additional cases, but it is difficult to resist the conclusion that crime is growing *pari passu* with the prosperity of the province. The increase was mainly in the number of minor offences against property; violent crimes were actually less by three, a rise of 73 cases under murder, being counterbalanced by satisfactory reductions in the number of dacoities, robberies and cases of house-breaking. Firearms were employed in 38 cases only as compared with 49 in 1904, and in all 20 firearms were seized. Cattle thefts were slightly more numerous than in 1904, Pegu District with 116 cases more than counterbalancing a nett decline by 99 in other districts. The most satisfactory improvement was in Prome District, which has long enjoyed the unenviable reputation of being the centre of this class of crime. Offences under the Arms Act continued the upward tendency shown in the previous year; those under other Acts call for no particular remark.

Detection.

57. Exclusive of cases under special laws, referred to in the last paragraph, 66 per cent. of the true cognizable cases during the year were brought to trial and 56 per cent. ended in conviction. Stolen property was recovered in rather more than half the cases of theft, but the value of the articles recovered was only 24 per cent. of the value of those stolen. Of the 351 murder cases, only 138 ended in conviction. In cattle thefts, there was a slight falling-off in the percentage of persons convicted to the number dealt with, but 55 per cent. of the value of the cattle stolen was recovered as compared with 52 per cent. in 1904.

Preventive Provisions.

58. The number of persons proceeded against under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure during 1905 was 3,013, or 170 more than in 1904. In the Hanthawaddy and Tharrawaddy Districts prosecutions were fewer than in the previous year by 80 and 214 respectively; and in both districts the Superintendents of Police omitted to make any use of their power to sanction prosecutions. Seventy-six per cent. of the prosecutions were successful, much the same result as in 1904. Vigorous action was again taken under section 17 of the Burma Gaming Act and 179 professional gamblers were put on security as compared with 117 in 1904.

Surveillance and Identification.

59. The number of released criminals under surveillance on the 31st December 1905 was 23,090, or 1,102 more than the year before, but all trace was lost of 18 per cent. of these during the year. There was a considerable increase in the number of old offenders identified before trial, but 27 previous convicts escaped identification till they came into the hands of the Jail authorities after sentence had been passed. The number of finger-print slips in the Bureau at Rangoon was again largely augmented; 2,019 references for trace of previous convictions were made during the year and of these 21 per cent. proved successful, as against 13 per

cent. in 1904. Despite the poor results achieved in the surveillance of released criminals and in tracing absconders the work of beat patrols is said to have been satisfactory. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

60. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the Railway Police (373 officers and men) and its popularity is shown by the fact that it was only two below strength at the close of 1905. True cases investigated increased by 221, or nearly 29 per cent., while the percentage of convictions, 82, was not less than in 1904. Only four out of 21 cases of housebreaking were detected, but in other classes of crime better results were obtained. Railway Police.

61. The actual strength of the Military Police Force in Burma on the 1st January 1906 was 15,596 Native officers and men, or 349 below the sanctioned strength, distributed over fourteen battalions. The withdrawal of the Military garrisons at Kēngtūng and Fort Stedman was satisfactorily effected in March 1905 and their place was taken by the new Southern Shan States Battalion, the entertainment of which is mainly responsible for the increase of $1\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs in the total expenditure (Rs. 53,40,026) over that of 1904. The discipline of the force continued to be good despite a considerable increase in the number of departmental punishments, the Toungoo Battalion again contributing more than half the officers so dealt with. A small rise in the number of dismissals was more than counterbalanced by the fall, from 85 to 62, in the number of desertions, which again were conspicuous in the case of the Myitkyina Battalion. Casualties from deaths and men invalided were heavier than in 1904, but admissions to hospital were less by nearly 2,000, although the percentage of such admissions, 123, to the whole force was still extraordinarily large. The Shan recruits enlisted for the Southern Shan States Battalion proved satisfactory and the only difficulty experienced in connection with recruiting was to find Karens of sufficiently good physique. Except in connection with the Wellaung Expedition mentioned in paragraph 23, no special services were required of the force during 1905 and in consequence only two officers received rewards. Musketry practice was good save in two battalions. Nine heliograph stations were opened in the area served by the Chindwin Battalion and the signallers were well reported on by the inspecting officer. Military Police.

62. Three new bodies of Punitive Police were employed for six months during the year, one in Akyab and the other two in Tharrawaddy District, at a total cost of Rs. 6,295. Special police were stationed in three places in the Yamèthin District and in one instance were still on duty at the close of 1905. Punitive Police.

63. Village Headmen continued to do good work in all their capacities—revenue, judicial and police. Their number was reduced by 173 to 18,299 by the union of small charges, for which separate headmen seemed no longer necessary. Nearly 64 per cent. of this total were independent headmen, drawing full commission on the revenue collected by them. Headmen empowered to award a month's imprisonment and to fine up to Rs. 50 and headmen authorised to try petty Civil Suits numbered 636 and 863 respectively at the end of the year; these figures show a considerable advance on those recorded for 1904, but their percentage to the total number of headmen is insignificant. Punishments were inflicted on 1,318 headmen, 316 being dismissed, and 713 received rewards as compared with 625 in the previous year. Fines inflicted by headmen on their villagers (Rs. 1,52,448) were Rs. 31,226 more than in 1904, owing to the more rigorous enforcement of the rules for combating cattle disease and fencing of villages. Relations with the police were good, especially in the Amherst District, where the District Superintendent of Police is said to have taken much interest in the village administration, and valuable assistance was rendered by headmen in the detection and prevention of crime. Towards offences under the Excise, Opium and Gambling Laws, the majority of headmen were indifferent, if not worse, an attitude which may be attributed partly to a lack of effort on the side of the Excise Department to secure their co-operation and partly to a want of sympathy on the side of the headmen with the policy of vigorous enforcement of the laws Village Administration.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

themselves. The Irrawaddy Division was again conspicuous for successful administration of the village law and although the number of headmen rewarded was less than in the Pegu Division, the policy of giving the rewards in open Durbar appears to have been very effective and is slowly being adopted in other divisions. Only 59 villages as compared with 106 in 1904 were fined under the Track Law for failure to clear themselves of responsibility for stolen property traced over their borders, while the number of villages (233) punished for failure to render the required assistance in the administration of the criminal law remained practically the same as in the previous year (239), although the amount of fines imposed (Rs. 80,700) was fully a third more. Deportation of the relatives and supporters of notorious criminals was resorted to in only four cases, in all with satisfactory results. In several instances, villagers under the leadership of their headmen offered successful resistance to dacoits and regular village guards were organised and drilled for service in attacks.

Rangoon Town Police.

64. The Police Force in Rangoon Town continued to be administered separately from the force in the rest of the Province. Its strength on the 1st January 1906, 933 officers and men, was 12 below the number sanctioned and 18 more than on the same date in 1905, but for ordinary police duties remained the same. Thirty-one men were dismissed or removed, ten of these after conviction before Magistrates. The conduct of the European constables was, as usual, exemplary. Increased pay and purchases of horses and material swelled the cost of the force by some Rs. 22,000 to Rs. 3,61,796. Offences dealt with rose by 772 to 13,735, but the greater part of the increase fell under local and special laws and there was actually a satisfactory decrease under most heads of serious crime, the main exception being house-breaking, 42 cases of which out of 87 ended in conviction as compared with only 24 out of 67 in 1904. One notorious gang of house-breakers was broken up with subsequent good effect. The increase (from 74 to 112) in the number of cases of Criminal Breach of Trust was very noticeable, but fair success attended the prosecutions. Cases under the Excise Act nearly trebled, but the number of prosecutions under the Gambling Act remained stationary owing to the difficulty of dealing with various places of amusement which are really gambling houses in disguise. The percentage of cases of all descriptions in which convictions were obtained (59) was slightly better than in 1904 and one-third of the property stolen was recovered as compared with only a sixth in the previous year. Much of the crime of Rangoon is the work of habitual criminals, and great attention was paid to them, roughly a third of the 1,594 persons registered as habituals being in jail at the close of the year. Prosecutions for bad livelihood were more numerous than in 1904 and 69 convictions were obtained as compared with 40, only 14 cases being ineffectual. Good work was done by the River Police in the prevention of thefts of rice.

Criminal Justice.

Courts.

65. The administration of Criminal Justice in the Province was in the hands of 425 Judges and Magistrates and 28 Benches of Honorary Magistrates, an increase of eight officers and five benches as compared with 1904. The formation of a Superior Judicial Service, details of which are given in paragraph 3 of the Report for 1904-05, effected considerable changes in Lower Burma, but the numerical additions to the Magistracy were all in the subordinate grades. The growing burden of the work in the District Magistrates' Courts rendered it necessary to add to the number of Magistrates empowered to try all cases not punishable with death and during the year three Extra Assistant Commissioners were so empowered in addition to seven District and two Subdivisional Judges. The expenditure incurred during the year, 20 lakhs, or Rs. 1,80,000 more than in 1904, was chiefly swelled by the increased rates of pay granted to the establishments of the subordinate courts in that year and by the debiting to Criminal Justice of one-half instead of one-third of the salaries of the 13 Deputy Commissioners who were relieved of all civil work by the introduction of the Superior Judicial Service. A small increase in the receipts of the Courts brought the total to slightly over eight lakhs.

66. The number of offences reported during 1905 (93,310) exceeded the total of the previous year by 6,178, or slightly over 7 per cent.; but the excess number of cases brought to trial was only 4,627 and of cases classed as true, 3,319. All but 257 of the additional cases classed as true were offences under Local and Special Laws, more especially the Municipal Law, cases under which account for nearly a third of the increase. Of offences punishable under the Penal Code, the most notable increase was under theft, but out of the 1,307 additional cases reported, only 765 were classed as true. More hurt cases were reported but while the number returned as true in Upper Burma rose by 197, there was a fall of 320 in Lower Burma. Complaints were summarily dismissed in 256 cases more than in 1904, the increase being shared almost equally by the Upper and the Lower Province. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.—Offences.

67. The number of cases disposed of during the year rose by 6,642 to 88,713 and of these almost 29 per cent., as compared with 27 per cent. in 1904, were dealt with by the Benches of Honorary Magistrates. Nearly 17,000 cases were dealt with by the Honorary Magistrates in Rangoon. The percentage of convictions by all Magistrates improved slightly in both Lower and Upper Burma (61·9 and 64·7 respectively) but the average duration of all cases rose by one day in each part of the province to 11 and 9 days respectively. More offences were tried summarily, the percentage of summary to regular trials being nearly 44 in Lower and 24 in Upper Burma. Seventy-three persons were tried by Jury and 635 with the aid of assessors, both figures being less than those for 1904, and in less than a third of the verdicts did the Judge disagree with the assessors. The Sessions Courts in Lower Burma did rather more work than in 1904, but the percentage of convictions fell largely to 53·3 as compared with 71 in Upper Burma. The Chief Court of Lower Burma in the exercise of its original jurisdiction dealt with 53 cases, practically the same number as in 1904. Disposal of cases.

68. Fines amounting to Rs. 7,78,596, or an average of a little less than Rs. 11 a head, were imposed on four-fifths of the persons punished during 1905, and the amount realised, Rs. 6,71,118, was rather more than in the previous year. Whipping was inflicted in 2,919 cases as compared with 2,863 in 1904, but this figure represented 26·7 per cent. of the total number of cases in which whipping might legally have been inflicted as compared with 22·4 per cent. in that year. Compensation to the amount of Rs. 40,216 as compared with Rs. 33,750 in 1904, was paid to complainants. The amount is considered susceptible of increase. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment rose by 1,432, the majority of these being sentenced to terms of six months and under. The Chief Court of Lower Burma again called attention to the bad policy in the majority of cases of short terms of imprisonment. Death sentences, 80 in number, were fewer by five than in 1904; in only 55 out of 96 cases in which capital sentence was passed by Session Judges in Lower Burma was the order confirmed by the Chief Court. There was a gratifying increase from 604 to 806 in the number of first offenders released on probation under the provisions of section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Fifteen boys, one more than in 1904, were sent to the Insein Reformatory School. Punishments.

69. The number of appeals continued to increase, 738 more being preferred than in 1904, but in Upper Burma the rise was confined to District Courts and in Lower Burma was not shared in by the Chief Court. In all 7,212 appeals were disposed of during the year, the percentage of confirmations varying from 25 in the Tavoy District Magistrate's Court to 78 in the Chief Court. The average percentage for Lower Burma, 68·8, was slightly higher than in 1904, but in Upper Burma it fell from 64·58 to 59·25. Eleven out of 13 appeals by Government against acquittals to the Chief Court were successful. As in original cases, the duration of appeals rose; for the addition of two days, from 16 to 18, in Lower Burma, the Courts of Session are responsible, the duration of appeals in District Courts being the same (10 days); in Upper Burma on the other hand appeals to the Courts of Sessions took only 7 days to decide as compared with 11 in 1904, but the increase from Appeals.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. 10 to 11 days in the duration of appeals to District Magistrates raised the general average from 12 to 14 days.

Revision. **70.** Persons whose cases were dealt with in revision were 288 fewer than in 1904, a slight increase in Upper Burma failing to counterbalance the fall in Lower Burma. The percentage of interference was rather less than in 1904; 64 persons had their sentences enhanced, 1,154 had their sentences reversed, reduced or altered, and a fresh trial or further enquiry was ordered in cases involving 308 persons. The reversal of a number of illegal convictions under the Excise Act swelled the percentage of interference in the cases dealt with by the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

Prisons.

Accommodation. **71.** The closing of the District Jails at Minbu and Pakôkku during 1905 left the Province with 6 Central and 24 District Jails, providing accommodation for 15,284 prisoners. The daily average number of prisoners was 12,637. As a rule the Lower Burma Jails were more or less full throughout the year and frequent transfers were necessary to avoid overcrowding.

Prisoners. **72.** The increased number of short-term imprisonments referred to in paragraph 68 above was mainly responsible for the rise of over 3,000 to 34,123 in the total admissions to prisons during the year. Convicts numbered 21,607 and the balance was made up of undertrial and civil prisoners. The daily average number (12,637) of prison inmates was nearly 1,000 higher than in 1904 and comprised 137 women and 49 children under 15 years of age. Convicts are no longer sent from Burma to India and in the course of the year 298 Burmese convicts in Indian Jails were returned to Burma to complete their terms of imprisonment. Nearly 23 per cent. of the new prisoners, or slightly more than in 1904, had been previously convicted, Bassein Jail retaining its pre-eminence in this respect with a percentage of nearly 38.

Discipline. **73.** Discipline was well maintained during the year. The total number of punishments inflicted on prison inmates, 44,916, was larger than in 1904, but the number of offences serious enough to be dealt with by Magistrates fell from 41 to 25 and the number of whippings from 220 to 160. As in 1904, habitual criminals were responsible for more than their due proportion of prison offences. Although they formed less than 38 per cent. of the average daily jail population, they committed 48 and 57 per cent. respectively of the offences classed as Minor and Major. Punishments inflicted on convicts employed as warders, who averaged 2,318 during 1905, or 204 fewer than in 1904, rose from an average of 4·14 per head to 5·6, mainly because of the stricter discipline enforced in the Bassein Jail. These warders were of great assistance in the management of their fellow convicts. Three prisoners escaped during the year, one from outside a jail; of these, two were recaptured together with a third who had escaped in a previous year.

Financial. **74.** Despite the large increase in the number of prisoners and an addition of over Rs. 11,000 to the Establishment charges, mainly in consequence of the higher pay drawn by members of the Indian Medical Service employed in the Jail Department, the total gross expenditure during 1905 fell slightly to Rs. 7,03,946, or Rs. 55-11-3 per prisoner. The average cost per head of feeding the prisoners was reduced from Rs. 23-2-7 in 1904 to Rs. 19-13-4, chiefly owing to the system of purchase of supplies by the Department direct from the producers and the consequent elimination of the middleman's profits. The cash earnings of prisoners during the year amounted to Rs. 2,07,696, or Rs. 14,407 less than in 1904; the decrease is attributed to the higher price paid for timber, but on the other hand there was a larger stock of manufactured articles and raw material in hand at the close of the year. If this sum be deducted from the gross expenditure, the resulting net cost of each prisoner to Government was only Rs. 39-4-0 as compared with Rs. 41-5-0 in 1904. The manufacture of articles for sale engaged 4,703

convicts, or 45½ per cent. of the average number sentenced to labour; 332 men worked in the Jail Branch Press and turned out work of the estimated value of 1¾ lakhs; 404 cultivated the Jail gardens and farms, the produce of which, valued at nearly one lakh, went to feed the prisoners; nearly 3,000 were utilised as prison officers and servants and the remainder (other than those on the sick list) were employed on jail buildings or in producing articles for jail requirements, while 115, as compared with 141 in 1904, were on unremunerative labour. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

75. The health of the prisoners was even better than in 1904. Despite the increased number in jail, only 4,048 were admitted into hospital, as compared with 4,526 in 1904 and the daily average number sick, 210, or 16·62 per 1,000, was the lowest for the past 14 years. The death-rate, 17 per 1,000, representing a total of 215 deaths, was the third lowest in the same period. Fifty-one prisoners died from tubercular disease as compared with 36 in the previous year, and 31 from dysentery, although the number of admissions to hospital from the latter illness fell from 546 to 333. The use of water from the tube well in the Government House Compound is held to have caused a considerable improvement in the health of the Mandalay Jail. Dysentery and diarrhœa were prevalent in the Thayetmyo Central Jail and attention is now paid to the more thorough filtration of the drinking water, which is held accountable for these diseases. Only one prisoner died from plague; and although there were three cases of cholera there were no deaths from that disease. Much of the improvement in health is ascribed to the segregation of new arrivals. Confessed opium consumers were 2,108 in number, or 11·57 per cent. of the prisoners admitted during the year; they contributed 39 deaths, or 18 per cent. of the mortality, many of them being in a wretched condition of health on admission. Nearly 60 per cent. of the new convicts in the jail at Bhamo were opium consumers. Vital.

Civil Justice.

76. Civil Justice during 1905 was administered by the Chief Court, with four Judges, and 61 subordinate Courts in Lower Burma and in the Upper Province by the Judicial Commissioner and 60 lower Courts. The number of district courts in the whole province remained unchanged; an extra divisional court was established in Lower Burma and several changes, involving a loss of one court in Upper Burma and a gain of one in Lower Burma, were made in the Courts of sub-districts. Ninety-five European and 239 Native Judges, or three Europeans and seven Natives fewer than in 1904, held office at the close of the year. These figures barely indicate the important change made in March 1905 by the inauguration of separate superior and subordinate Judicial Services for Lower Burma, details of which are given in paragraph 3 of the Report for 1904-05. The substitution of officers able to devote the whole of their time to Judicial work for officers with administrative duties to perform caused a reduction of twelve in the number of European Judicial Officers in Lower Burma. The total charges of the Courts rose by Rs. 54,000 roughly to nearly 13 lakhs of rupees, but receipts at the same time rose by over three lakhs to Rs. 17,54,898. Lower Burma was mainly responsible for the increase under both heads. Courts.

77. The feature of the year was the marked increase of nearly 10,000 (from 51,594 to 61,483) in the number of suits instituted in the courts of Lower Burma. For the whole province the total number filed in the year was 82,971, a rise of 14·6 per cent. over the total for 1904. All districts in Lower Burma except three shared in the increase. Suits for money or movable property formed over 91 per cent. of the whole, practically the same ratio as in 1904, but mortgage suits, which rose from 1,940 to 2,770, showed in proportion to their number a notable increase. Suits for immovable property were actually fewer than in 1904. The aggregate value of the suits was little short of 182 lakhs of rupees, an advance of 29 lakhs over the total in 1904, despite a fall of nearly 11 lakhs in the value of the suits instituted before the Chief Court of Lower Burma. All classes of subordinate courts shared in the increase of work, the bulk falling to the Township Courts in which 72·6 of the cases were instituted as compared with 73·7 in 1904. Volume and classification of litigation.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Disposal of cases.

78. The number of regular Civil suits decided during 1905 was 81,271 as compared with 71,900 in 1900; of these 41·9 per cent. were disposed of without trial, or decreed on confession, 25·8 per cent. were decided *ex-parte*, and only in 21,234 cases, or 26 per cent., was the decree passed after contest. The last total was only four more than the total for 1904, so that, although over 9,000 more cases were disposed of in 1905, they were all uncontested. At the close of the year 8,343 cases were pending and nearly a fourth of these had been pending for more than three months. The average duration of contested cases rose from 47 to 57 days in Lower Burma and from 36 to 46 in the Upper Province, where, however, there was no change in the average duration of uncontested cases (28 days).

Applications for removal of attachment as usual formed the bulk of the Miscellaneous Cases, which rose by 1,051 to 10,758, a decrease of 514 in Upper Burma being more than counterbalanced by an increase of 1,565 in Lower Burma. At the close of the year 1,255 applications were pending, or about a third more than at the end of 1904.

Execution of decrees.

79. No fewer than 45,509 applications for execution of decrees were before the Courts during 1905, an advance of 6,821 on the figures for the previous year. At the close of the year, 7,318 applications were pending. Of the applications disposed of, 44·5 per cent. were wholly infructuous, while the number of cases in which satisfaction was obtained in full was actually less than in 1904, when the ratio of infructuous applications to applications disposed of was 42 per cent. Twenty-three and a quarter lakhs were realised, an advance of over 3½ lakhs as compared with 1904. There was again an increase in the number of judgment-debtors imprisoned (991), and property, movable and immovable, was sold in 5,128 cases, or 1,044 cases more than in the previous year.

Insolvency Proceedings.

80. Sixty-nine applications more than in 1904, or 409 in all, were made for declarations of insolvency, but only 307 were disposed of and barely a third of these met with success. Fifteen insolvents, as compared with 53 in 1904, were discharged. Creditors' claims to the amount of 1½ lakhs were admitted, but only Rs. 1,504 were realised from insolvent estates and disbursed during the year.

Appeals.

81. The number of regular appeals decided during 1905 (3,934) was less by 443 than the total for 1904, while 1,108 cases were pending at the close of the year as compared with 866. At the same time, the average duration of each appeal rose considerably for the Province as a whole. Nearly 37 per cent. of the appellants met with some measure of success, a slightly higher percentage than in 1904.

Registration.

General.

82. The registration of documents continued to be governed during 1905 by the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, in Lower Burma, and in Upper Burma by the Registration Regulation, 1897 (Regulation II of 1897). No change was made in either of these laws during the year. After two years' trial in selected offices, universal application was given to the rule requiring Registering Officers to take the thumb impression of such executants as are illiterate or not personally known to them.

Documents registered.

83. Offices open for registration numbered 146 at the close of 1905, or one more than in the previous year. The 48 offices in Upper Burma dealt with practically the same number of documents as in 1904, but there was a marked fall of over 28 per cent. (to Rs. 47,78,491) in the aggregate value of documents (7,560) compulsorily registered, due mainly to the cessation of the keen competition in the purchase of oil-well sites at Yenangyaung in Magwe District. In Lower Burma the feature of the year was the very large increase in the number of documents dealt with and the decline in their average value. The rise of 4,908 to a grand total of 36,741 in the number of documents affecting immovable property compulsorily registered was in the main due to the partial extension of the provisions of the Transfer of Property Act. The fall in the

average value of the property affected by each document from Rs. 2,162 to Rs. 1,852 is attributable to the decline in the value of land sold in the City of Rangoon, due to a reaction from the excessive speculation which characterised the preceding three years. Documents affecting movable property in Lower Burma were registered in much larger numbers than in 1904 (5,503 as against 4,074), but the aggregate value of the property affected thereby fell from 58½ to 48½ lakhs of rupees. There was a considerable increase (from 826 to 1,123) in the number of applications to search the registers and take copies of registered documents.

Income and Expenditure.

84. The total income of registration offices during 1905 was Rs. 1,92,918, or Rs. 13,309 more than in 1904, while expenditure rose by Rs. 12,377 to Rs. 68,755. The additional income is accounted for by the increased number of documents dealt with; the rise in expenditure is explained by the fact that there was a whole-time Sub-Registrar in Rangoon, and that temporary clerks were entertained during the whole year in the Rangoon and Hanthawaddy Offices to deal with accumulated arrears and the preparation of fresh Indexes. No part of the pay of Township Officers, who perform the bulk of the work of registration, is debited to the Department. During the year sanction was accorded to a proposal to relieve some of the more heavily worked official Sub-Registrars by the appointment of non-officials.

Local Boards Administration.

85. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in paragraph 170.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon Municipality.

86. During the year which ended on the 31st March 1906 the Rangoon Municipal Committee held 15 general meetings at which on an average only 16 of its 25 members attended. The constitution of the Committee remained practically unchanged, no election taking place. No fresh imposts were levied, but it was decided in view of the large debit balances of the respective funds to increase both the scavenging-tax levied in the suburbs and the water-tax from 4 to 5 per cent. with effect from the 1st July 1906. A proposal to levy a poll tax of Rs. 2 on each person leaving Burma by sea was rejected by Government. New buildings with a total monthly rental of Rs. 65,718 were assessed for the first time, and as the result of the revision of the assessments in June 1905 the total monthly rental value of buildings within the Municipality exclusive of Government and Municipal property at the end of the year 1905-06 reached Rs. 7,60,004. The incidence of taxation per head of the population rose by nearly 9 annas to Rs. 7-8-4, while that of income fell slightly to Rs. 18-10-4. The Fire Brigade attended 24 fires at which property of the value of over 10 lakhs was destroyed. No alteration was introduced in the methods of street-lighting, street-watering and conservancy; work in connection with the electric lighting of the town is, however, in progress. The Shone underground drainage system worked well, but considerable delay occurred in commencing the improvements, for which an outlay of nearly 5¼ lakhs had been sanctioned in the previous year. The experiment of paving back drainage spaces with bricks-on-end was ultimately condemned and the whole question of paving them is being considered afresh. The Municipal wash-houses were further extended and now contain 415 washing-tanks, a number which is considered sufficient for the present. Much energy was displayed in the important and, in view of the congested state of part of the town, urgent work of reclaiming the low-lying lands within the Municipality. The expenditure incurred during the year exclusive of advances for stores from Europe

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and of certain contingencies amounted to over 7 lakhs as compared with 4¾ lakhs in 1904-05. A large proportion of this sum had to be advanced to the Reclamation Fund by the Municipal Fund owing to delays in realising the estimated receipts for the year from land already reclaimed. Much attention was paid during the year to the re-organisation of the various departments of the Municipality and a complete scheme for transferring from the Health Officer's to the Engineers' Department the duty of collecting and removing refuse was adopted by the Committee. Towards the close of the rains of 1905, two of the dams of the Hlawga Reservoir showed signs of weakness which necessitated the cutting of emergency weirs, thereby lowering the level of the Lake, and subsequently extensive additions and improvements. Further heavy expenditure was incurred on the work and its cost up to the end of March 1906 had reached Rs. 46,83,039. The improvement of the water distribution system in the town was not begun till late in the year and the projected duplication of the pumping station was postponed pending further investigation.

Minor Municipalities and their Committees.

87. The number of minor municipalities in the Province was raised to 42 by the grant of full municipal status to the two notified areas of Pyapôn and Kyaiklat in the Irrawaddy Division. Bhamo came under the Burma Municipal Act on the 1st January 1906 and the Municipal Regulation then ceased to apply to any of the 13 Upper Burma municipalities. In addition to the municipalities proper there were 15 notified areas in which certain provisions of the Municipal Act were in force. Municipal affairs were managed by Committees comprising 530 members, of whom 90 (distributed over 9 municipalities) were elected by their fellow townsmen, 276 were nominated by the Commissioner or the Local Government, and the rest were members *ex-officio*. In two of the three towns in which elections were held during the year there was no contest; in Bassein a vacancy among the elected members was filled by a nominated representative of the European Milling firms, while in Moulmein the places of four elected members who resigned during the year were not filled up. The attendance of members at Municipal Meetings was not very satisfactory, ranging as it did between 50 and 60 per cent. in a large number of cases.

Minor Municipalities; taxation.

88. The average incidence per head of population of Municipal taxation in the 42 municipalities during the year rose slightly to Re. 1-11-0 consequent on revision of assessments and levy of fresh imposts. Revision produced a substantial increase in Prome, especially in the service taxes. Three towns, Prome, Bassein and Akyab, substituted a tax based on rental values for their area assessment of land. Scavenging-taxes were imposed in Prome, Paungdè and Letpadan and enhanced in Tavoy, where the cart-tax was increased and the area assessable to lighting-tax extended. A lighting-tax was sanctioned for Thayetmyo and a cart-tax for Mergui, while fees were levied by Yandoon, Kyaiklat and Henzada on boats plying for hire. Land taxes were imposed in Allanmyo-Ywataung and Myanaung.

Minor Municipalities; public safety and convenience.

89. Sanitation and water-supply problems continued to occupy the attention of most municipalities during the year, but comparatively little progress was made in bringing schemes to fruition. The construction of the Akyab water-works, commenced in the previous year, was delayed pending the preparation of revised estimates and the Municipality were able to take up only Rs. 30,000 of the 2 lakhs still required at the beginning of the year to complete the work. The tube-wells at Thônzè and Letpadan in the Tharrawaddy District proved a great success and it is now proposed to distribute the water through Thônzè by means of pipes and to sink a second well at Letpadan, which the improved supply from the first well is said to have saved from its annual visitation by cholera. Nothing, however, was done in Pegu or Bassein, and Mandalay still remains without a proper supply of water. The provision of masonry drains to carry away surface water was continued to some purpose in Mandalay and Prome, and in the latter town over a mile of brick-lined drains was completed. The advent of plague and the precautionary measures adopted to stay its course effected a considerable if temporary amelioration of the

insanitary condition of most of the towns in the Province. Expenditure on conservancy increased by nearly a lakh owing, principally, to the extension of the conservancy scheme area in Mandalay. Conservancy operations were badly mismanaged in Moulmein, and Thatôn is said to be little better in this respect. The roads in Mandalay town came in for more attention, and the expenditure on them exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 1,40,000. Pegu Municipality purchased a six-ton steam roller, but owing to difficulties with contractors failed to get much work out of it during the year. More money was spent on markets except in Mandalay, where the new Zegyo Bazaar amply provides for all present requirements. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

90. The accounts of all Municipalities were audited during the year. The only serious mismanagement was found in Moulmein, where a special audit officer was employed for six months for the purpose of reducing the accounts to order. Minor Municipalities; Accounts Audit.

Military.

91. The total strength of the troops forming the Burma garrison at the end of March 1906 was 10,702 officers and men, of whom 4,349 were Europeans. Strength of the garrison.

92. A sum of 8 lakhs inclusive of charges for establishment, tools and plant was expended by the Public Works Department during the year in connection with the housing of the Imperial Garrison of the Province, in addition to the cost (2½ lakhs) of maintaining the existing buildings and other works in repair. At Maymyo progress was made with the accommodation required for the full Battalion of British Infantry and the Battery of Native Mountain Artillery which it is proposed to station there, while barracks and quarters on Mandalay Hill were completed for two Companies of British Infantry and steps were taken to provide them with a supply of water by pipes from the Brewery Tube well. At Meiktila a new mess-house and much needed quarters for the British Officers of the Native regiment were under construction, and in the Rangoon Cantonments a new permanent Native Hospital and a piped water-supply from artesian wells were completed or practically completed, while several buildings were in course of construction during the year. Military Works.

Military (Volunteering).

93. There were six Volunteer Corps in Burma during the year of report; three of these, the Port Defence, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the Burma Railways Corps, have their headquarters in Rangoon; the Moulmein Volunteer Rifles and Artillery have their headquarters at Moulmein and the Upper Burma Corps at Mandalay. During the year the Port Defence Corps was re-organized and is now divided into two Naval Divisions, two companies of Garrison Artillery and one Company of Electrical Engineers. The total strength of the six corps as shown by the rolls at the close of March 1906 was 2,341 adults, 285 cadets and 138 reservists, or slightly more than in the previous year, and with 2,446 efficients exclusive of the reservists they earned in capitation and other grants just over a lakh of rupees or Rs. 6,645 more than in 1904-05. These figures do not include the 36 members of the South Andaman Rifle Corps which, for administrative purposes, is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps and earned in grants Rs. 1,350.

Marine.

94. The maintenance of the nine lighthouses and four light-ships off the coast of Burma during the 12 months which ended on the 31st March 1906 cost Rs. 1,90,509, over half a lakh more than in the previous year. More oil was purchased and repairs to the buildings and vessels were heavier. At the same time receipts from light-dues increased by Rs. 35,639 to nearly 5¼ lakhs. *Beri-beri* continued to break out among the members of the establishment but out of 14 cases only one proved fatal. An Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department Lighthouses and Light-ships.

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was appointed to assist the Principal Port Officer, Burma, in the duties pertaining to the appointment of Superintendent of Lighthouses, monthly visits to which were as usual made in one or other of the Royal Indian Marine vessels "Minto" and "Mayo".

Port Administration, Rangoon.

95. The constitution and powers of the Rangoon Port Trust were revised and re-defined by Burma Act IV of 1905, which came into force on the 15th July 1905. A detailed description of the Act is given in paragraph 37 of the Report for 1904-05. The income of the Trust for the year 1905-06 was 23¾ lakhs of rupees, or slightly lower than in the previous year, when, however, receipts were unduly swelled by the inclusion of over 2 lakhs of arrears due by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Co. and of the premium on a loan, amounting to Rs. 1,57,015, which it is now considered should have been credited to the capital and not to the revenue account. Expenditure slightly exceeded 29 lakhs, 11 lakhs more than in 1904-05, or, excluding expenditure on new works out of surplus revenue and the Debt Account, six lakhs, which are mainly accounted for by the transfer to the capital account of 2 lakhs premia on loans raised in previous years, by 2 lakhs placed to Insurance, Replacement and Reserve Funds and by extra payments of 1¼ lakhs for interest on loans and sinking funds. The year closed with a credit balance of 10⅓ lakhs or two-thirds of the opening balance. The favourable reception accorded to their former loans induced the Port Commissioners to raise two further loans amounting to Rs. 27,30,000 at the reduced rate of 4 per cent. and both were successfully floated at rates slightly below par, bringing the total indebtedness up to 58¼ lakhs. Twenty-eight lakhs out of a total sanctioned estimate of 39½ were expended in connection with the scheme for the improvement of the Port, and it is expected that the works in hand will be completed in 1907. The dredger "Hastings", referred to in the Report for 1904-05, arrived in April 1905, but for various reasons was not fully employed during the year. The work of laying down new fixed moorings was suspended in consequence of a report that changes in the river had rendered one of the trial sets of moorings unsafe. Further representations were made to Government regarding the proposed extension of the Latter Street Wharf in front of portion of the Municipal Market and a modification of the original scheme was sanctioned. Considerable improvements were effected in the existing facilities for landing from boats and launches and steps were taken to secure that no new boats of the dangerous type at present in use will be constructed to ply for hire in the harbour. The operations of the Port Health Department were taken under direct Government control on the 1st October 1905 and the Port Funds relieved of all special expenditure on the prevention of plague.

Pilot services, Rangoon.

96. The 21 pilots of the Port of Rangoon earned for the Pilot Fund Rs. 2,66,449, or Rs. 10,729 more than in 1904-05, and for themselves 1¾ lakhs or slightly more. An addition of Rs. 5,000 brought the Depreciation Fund up to Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 16,417 was added to the balance of the Pilot Fund, which stood at Rs. 1,09,669 on the 31st March 1906. Four of the 21 pilots were Special Pilots, not available for general duty. They were the commanders of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers plying between Rangoon, Moulmein and Mergui and of the Port Trust Tug "Kathleen".

Minor Ports.

97. The receipts during 1905-06 of the six minor ports for which separate Port Funds are maintained rose by Rs. 33,573 to Rs. 3,70,135, while the expenditure fell slightly to Rs. 3,41,785. Port Officers appointed by Government continued to manage the Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein Ports, where there are special pilot services consisting of 8, 2 and 4 pilots respectively, two of the 8 at Moulmein being the commanders of the steamers which ply thrice a week between that port and Rangoon. The expenditure of the Pilot Funds of the three ports, Rs. 75,463, exceeded the receipts by Rs. 3,301 and the closing balance fell to Rs. 24,158. The administration of the remaining three ports, Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu, none of which has a pilot fund, is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners of the districts bearing these names.

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Commercial Marine.

98. The growth of the trade of Rangoon continued during the year under review, when, despite a fall of 112 (from 8,032 to 7,920) in the provincial total of vessels entered and cleared, there was a increase of 136 (from 3,011 to 3,247) in the number and of 231,589 from 4,701,129 to 4,932,718, in the tonnage of the steamers and sailing ships calling at the premier port. The advance took place in the vessels engaged in the coastal trade, ships entering from and clearing to foreign ports being fewer by 59, the totals being 803 and 744 for 1904-05 and 1905-06 respectively. These figures do not necessarily represent separate ships: a vessel entering and leaving a port in the course of the year is counted twice over. No fewer than 373 steamers of 4,000 tons and over called at Rangoon during the year, 16 more than in 1904-05 and 100 more than in 1903-04. Ten years ago only 45 vessels of this size entered the port. Sailing vessels were fewer in number but larger in size. The number of ships sailing under a foreign flag, mostly Norwegian, German or Austrian, to name them in the order of frequency, rose slightly from 159 to 171.

Commercial Marine; wrecks and casualties.

99. Three vessels were wrecked during the year and there was one collision, which resulted in the loss of two lives. In August 1905 an exceptionally strong current drove the British India Steam Navigation Company's S.S. "Bihara." bound for Rangoon with 1,326 Indian coolies on board, out of her course on to the Alguada Reef where she became a total wreck. No lives were lost, and the Court of Enquiry which sat on the occurrence acquitted the Captain of blame. In March 1906 the S.S. "Feronia," outward bound from Moulmein with a cargo of rice, went aground while in charge of a pilot in the Salween River and broke her back. The Court of Enquiry found the pilot guilty of negligence and his license was suspended for a year. In September 1905 a small French vessel, the S.S. "Orange," when preparing to go to sea, broke from her moorings in the Rangoon River before she had sufficient steam, and fouled a mooring buoy chain. She was pushed over to the Dalla side of the river and there sank. The previous month, the Burma Oil Company's Tank steamer "Syriam," while proceeding to sea at night under charge of a pilot, collided with a disabled and drifting oil-motor launch, the "Shamrock," and two lives were lost. No blame attached to the pilot, but it was held that the Captain of the "Syriam" had been lax in not taking extra precautions in view of the nature of the weather. A second collision, happily not attended by loss of life, took place in January 1906 just at the mouth of the Rangoon River between the Mergui Mail Steamer "Hindu" and a native brig at anchor. The third Officer of the "Hindu" who was in charge at the time was severely censured for bad steering. Altogether during the year in the Rangoon Harbour there were 27 accidents to vessels while in charge of Assistant Harbour Masters or Pilots. In connection with these, four Courts of Enquiry were held and one Assistant Harbour Master was removed from the service for carelessness which caused the loss of the hull of the Port Trust Tug "Kathleen."

Government steamers and launches.

100. The three Royal Indian Marine vessels, "Irrawaddy" "Sladen" and "Bhamo," were fully employed throughout the year 1905-06. They carried over 10,000 troops and followers, 81 lakhs specie and 8,734 tons of stores and earned Rs. 3,08,240, or Rs. 61,723 more than in the previous year. In the course of the year six new vessels were added to the Government Flotilla, two were received from the Port Commissioners of Rangoon when the supervision of the Plague Inspection Department was taken over by Government and one was sold, leaving 90 vessels of all descriptions, including five house-boats, 8 flats, one barge and one schooner. The total expenditure on the upkeep of these vessels, including 4 per cent. interest on the balance of their cost, just fell short of 6 lakhs, while they earned almost 4¼ lakhs, 17 launches showing a profit on the year's working. The seagoing launch "Margarita" from Mergui and the Akyab Port Officer's Buoy-vessel "Wanderer" were both extensively overhauled during the year and may practically be regarded as new vessels, although they are not included in the number of new vessels stated above.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Marine Works and Surveys.

101. Outside the Harbour of Rangoon no marine works of any magnitude were carried out during the year. Some much needed pontoons and landing-stages were constructed at small trading centres, a new godown was commenced at Moulmein, and the alterations to the wharf at Victoria Point were completed, while the erection of a landing-stage at Sinbyubin, in the Tavoy River, where the mail steamers meet the tender from Tavoy, was taken in hand. The only marine survey carried out was the entire re-survey of the Rangoon River by the surveyor of the Port Commissioners, Rangoon.

CHAPTER IV.
PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Eleventh issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1905-06 and preceding years—Table XIX.

Agriculture.

Agricultural stock and cattle disease.

102. The annual returns of agricultural stock show a marked falling off in the number of oxen and buffaloes, ascribed to the extensive havoc wrought by cattle disease during the year that closed on the 31st March 1906. The number of deaths from all diseases is returned at 111,770 as compared with 69,344 in 1904-05. Registration of cattle deaths is in force in Lower Burma only, but in Upper Burma statements are supplied by headmen. As usual rinderpest claimed the largest number of victims and its ravages were most severe in the dry zone districts of Upper Burma, and in the four Lower Burma districts of Thayetmyo, Henzada, Tharrawaddy and Bassein. As in 1904-05 the mortality was greatest in Thayetmyo, whence over 10,000 deaths were returned, but in each of seven other districts the losses from this one disease exceeded 5,000 head. In the Southern Shan States, 67,697 deaths from cattle disease were reported and in nearly every village heavy losses were sustained. The number of cattle inoculated against rinderpest during the year (6,335) was more than double the number so treated in the previous year and only 58, as against 41 out of the smaller total, are known subsequently to have died. No spontaneous applications for inoculation were received from cattle-owners and, so far, little faith has been evinced by them in the efficacy of the process. Deaths from anthrax and kindred diseases were rather fewer than in 1904-05, but Akyab, Bassein and Henzada Districts again contributed more than half the total number (8,082) reported. Casualties from foot-and-mouth disease rose from 9,065 to 12,308, Bassein District alone reporting 3,388.

Civil Veterinary Department.

103. To make headway against these epidemics only 83 Veterinary Assistants were available during the year and before its close death and one dismissal had reduced the small total to 79. Difficulty was experienced in recruiting for the

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Department; an attempt made during the year to require a Seventh Standard Educational Certificate from applicants for scholarships was a failure, only 13 out of 30 selected applicants appearing to take up study at the Veterinary School in the Province, the expenditure on which rose from Rs. 4,841 to Rs. 6,503. The total cost of the Department for the year was Rs. 1,39,414, or about Rs. 5,000 more than in 1904-05. Practically half this sum was met from Provincial revenues, the balance being shared between Imperial and Local Funds. Sanction was accorded to the scheme for the re-organisation of the Department by the appointment of 12 Inspectors and an increase in the number of the Assistants.

Pony and cattle-breeding.

104. The four Government stallions standing at Tharrawaddy, Magwe and Lashio served 96 mares during the year, or 40 more than in 1904-05; the Magwe stallion was, however, regarded as a failure and it was said that the Lashio stallion was not fully employed.

There are no Government bulls for stud purposes in any part of the Province and the only direct encouragement given by Government to cattle-breeders is by by the holding of agricultural shows at which prizes and medals are given for the best cattle in the various classes. For a variety of reasons, only two such shows were held during the year of report, at Pyawbwè in the Yamèthin District and at Bhamo, but the cattle exhibits at both were so inferior that none of the 12 medals offered by the Inspector-General of the Civil Veterinary Department was awarded.

Prices.

105. As a rule the prices obtained for the principal crops at harvest time were considerably higher than in the previous year. The main factor in this result was the bad agricultural season and consequent diminution in the supply, but in Akyab and to a smaller extent in Kyaukpyu a subsidiary cause of the higher rates for paddy was competition between the European Millers and native buyers from Eastern Bengal, where the harvest was poor. At Rangoon, the chief market of the Province, the average price of paddy from November to March was Rs. 105, or Rs. 9 more than in the previous season. In Moulmein the ruling price (Rs. 107) was actually a rupee lower than in 1904-05, but the harvest in the Amherst District was 25 per cent. above normal and doubtless had the effect of keeping down the price. In Upper Burma prices ruled very much higher for paddy at most of the principal markets; Rs. 104 a hundred baskets, an advance of Rs. 21 on the previous year's price, were obtained for the wet-weather variety in Mandalay and in the neighbouring district of Kyaukse rates stood Rs. 12 higher than in 1904-05. Of the cereals, wheat alone failed to share in the general increase in the districts where it was largely grown, but this is explained by the much larger area cropped and the exceptional abundance of the outturn. In Myingyan the price of millet rose by about 50 per cent. owing to a diminished supply. Tobacco was cheaper in Upper Burma, especially in Mandalay, but changes in Lower Burma had an upward tendency. Uncleaned cotton was dearer in Myingyan and considerably dearer in the Lower Chindwin, but fell to Rs. 18 per 365 pounds weight in Meiktila; cleaned cotton, on the other hand, although cheaper in Thayetmyo, varied little elsewhere.

Agricultural loans.

106. The total amount of money lent by Government to cultivators for the purchase of seed grain and cattle, Rs. 6,76,400, was 2¼ lakhs more than in 1904-05. Rupees 5,59,490 were recovered during the year and the balance still out on loan on the 31st March 1906 slightly exceeded five lakhs. Of this amount Rs. 71,590 were overdue, as compared with Rs. 84,710 twelve months previously. Pyapôn with Rs. 78,850 took the lead among the borrowing districts, but in each of three others advances exceeded half a lakh, and only five districts in Burma outside Rangoon Town failed to ask for an allotment. During the past five years Government conducted its loan business with an annually increasing profit, which amounted in the year of report to Rs. 7,677 and in the five years to over a quarter of a lakh of rupees. This profit represents the excess of the interest on loans recovered from cultivators over the sum credited to the Government of India as interest on the monies lent to the Province together with the loans and interest

written off as irrecoverable. A new departure during the year was the payment of loans to borrowers in their villages instead of at township headquarters. In some districts the new method is said to have popularised loans, in others to have led to delay in their disbursement, because Township Officers could not arrange for an immediate visit to every village for which loans had been sanctioned. There was also some difficulty in making provision for the police escort required by the disbursing officer. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Advances under the Land Improvements Loans Act to the amount of Rs. 4,500 were made in four districts during the year.

107. The four Co-operative Credit Societies with a membership of 188 in existence at the close of March 1905 were joined by 17 others in the next 12 months. The 21 societies had 1,365 members and their funds at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 68,582 of which Rs. 35,030 had been subscribed by members, Rs. 31,031 represented loans and deposits and the balance was Profit to date and Reserve Fund. No difficulty was experienced in the working of the Societies once started, and loans and interest were punctually repaid. The problem which the Registrar has yet to solve is to induce new Societies to start without a Government loan. The members of the existing societies are said thoroughly to understand their objects and to take the keenest interest in their success. Co-operative Credit Societies.

108. The river-side embankment works in Lower Burma protected the crops over an area of 604,054 acres from floods, a decrease as compared with 1904-05 of 8,342 acres consequent on breaches made in the Myanaung Embankment by high floods. Expenditure on their upkeep amounted to Rs. 3,19,027, or Rs. 36,671 less than in the previous year, while the total amount of revenue placed to their credit, 12¾ lakhs, was practically the same. Owing to the erosion of the banks, several retirements were found necessary and the extension for five miles of the Thôngwa Island Embankment was taken in hand. Protection from floods.

109. The area irrigated during 1905-06, 793,739 acres, was slightly less than in the previous year. A decrease of some 1,500 acres watered from wells (11,718 acres) was more than made good by an increase of 2,000 odd in the acreage (130,995) protected by tanks, but the area fed by Government Canals, forming nearly 35 per cent. of the whole, fell off by 15,000 acres. In Yamèthin the tanks, filled by the favourable rainfall, more than doubled the extent of their operations, but the credit of over 6,000 acres thus obtained was more than blotted out by a decline exceeding 9,000 acres in Kyauksè where the water-supply was low at one season and late at another, thereby reducing not only the total area watered but the proportion of the remaining area under paddy. In Minbu a decrease of nearly 2,000 acres was attributed mainly to the breaching of one of the smaller inundation canals which take their water from the Salin River, and in Mandalay nearly 6,000 acres were water-logged owing to the absence of water-courses and field channels. In Shwebo the enquiries of the Settlement Officer led to the exclusion from the irrigable area of over 4,000 acres, which previously had been held to receive an adequate supply of water from the old Mu Canal. An increase of nearly 6,000 acres in the area, 39,305 acres, of miscellaneous food crops irrigated was gained at the cost of a fall of 13,000 acres under paddy and other cereals. Area irrigated.

Weather and Crops.

110. Agriculturally considered, the year was not very favourable. The rainy season set in late and in the majority of Lower Burma districts there was too much rain during the planting season and too little when the crops were ripening. In other districts where the rain was timely and sufficient, much destruction was occasioned by floods in the Irrawaddy River. In Upper Burma the rainfall from district to district varied with its usual caprice; the districts bordering the Irrawaddy in the dry zone were the least fortunate, suffering as they did from deficiency at either the beginning or at the end of the season or at both. In Kyauksè the rains Character of the seasons.

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did not commence properly till September and irrigation suffered in consequence, while in the neighbouring district of Meiktila the early rains were rather too heavy, the hot-weather paddy in the bed of the Meiktila Lake was drowned out and much early sessamum was damaged. Abnormal floods in the Irrawaddy did damage in Mandalay and Sagaing and hail-storms during the cold and early part of the hot-weather proved destructive in Katha. In the Lower Chindwin District the pea and gram crops suffered from untimely downpours in March and April and a break in the middle rains was followed by an excess.

Cropped area.

111. The total area put under crop during the year of report was 12,392,348 acres, or some 163,000 acres less than in 1904-05. More than one crop was grown on 308,997 acres as compared with 391,593 acres in the previous year, a considerable decline attributed to the unfavourable season in the dry zone districts, especially Magwe and Myingyan. The crops on 955,937 acres, or 7·7 per cent. of the whole cropped area, failed to mature. To this total, which is nearly half as large again as the total for 1904-05, the chief contributors were the three districts of Lower Burma which suffered most severely from floods, Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Ma-ubin; and in Upper Burma, Pakôkku and all the Meiktila Division outside Kyauksè. Two of these districts, however, Meiktila and Yamèthin, although responsible for nearly 138,000 acres of crop failures, showed a considerable improvement on the previous year's figures and must be regarded as having reduced rather than increased the provincial total. Current fallows, over $3\frac{1}{4}$ million acres, rose to rather more than a fifth of the occupied area of $15\frac{2}{3}$ million acres. The heavy cattle mortality and the serious floods of the year swelled the extent of the fallow area, while the increase in crop failures was due partly to floods and partly to deficient rainfall. A notable feature of the year was the practical exemption of the Amherst District from floods and the consequent reduction of nearly 68,000 acres in the area on which crops there failed.

Area under various crops.

112. Three-quarters of the total area under crops, or 9,281,407 acres, were sown with paddy, which for the third year in succession asserted its predominance both relatively and absolutely over all other varieties of crops. The outturn failed to fulfil the early promise of the season and the final estimate of the quantity of cargo-rice available for export from the 15 chief rice-growing districts in Lower Burma was $2\frac{1}{8}$ million tons, or 112,000 tons less than in 1905. Next in importance, though far behind, came sessamum and millet in the order named with 929,123 and 856,703 acres respectively. Sessamum is grown in nearly every district, but the production is insignificant outside the Minbu, Meiktila and Sagaing Divisions of Upper Burma. Two-thirds of the total crop usually belong to the early variety which depends for its success on favourable rainfall at the beginning of the season. As a rule the early rain of 1905 was not favourable in the dry zone districts and the acreage under early sessamum decreased by over 100,000 while the late variety also was less extensively cultivated. The decrease was most marked in Myingyan, where both the early and the latter rains were disappointing. Millet is almost exclusively an Upper Burma dry zone crop; and while every district except Pakôkku, in which it was grown, shows a smaller area than in the previous year, the total decrease of 154,000 odd acres occurred chiefly in Magwe, Myingyan and Lower Chindwin Districts. Gram and wheat together contributed nearly 114,000 acres, much the same as in 1904-05, but the proportion of wheat rose from 30,631 to 35,178 acres, more than two-thirds of this area being in Sagaing. Maize, cultivated chiefly as a fodder crop, occupied 113,000 acres or almost the same extent as in 1904-05. Various kinds of peas and beans were sown on 360,112 acres, or 6,000 acres less than in the previous year, but of the variety most in demand for export to Europe for fodder purposes there were 134,760 acres, or 11,000 acres more. The area under chillies, chiefly in Meiktila, Kyauksè and Ma-ubin Districts, rose by nearly 4,000 acres to a total of 52,487, or nearly 10,000 acres more than two years before. Cotton was grown on 173,249 acres, or over 15,000 acres less than in 1904-05; the decrease, due to the generally unfavourable character of the season in the dry zone districts where the crop is cultivated, was common to all these districts, but most marked in Thayetmyo, which

returned only 7,544 acres of cotton as compared with 12,275 in the preceding year. The acreage under tobacco (75,765 acres) was practically the same as in 1904-05; the profits of cultivation are so great that, in Upper Burma at least, the area cropped is limited only by the extent of alluvial land rich enough for its support. Land devoted to orchards and garden produce, in all 398,214 acres, extended by some 16,000 acres. Onions were less and tomatoes more extensively grown than in the previous year, while the area under ground-nuts, practically confined to Magwe and Myingyan, rose from 15,880 to 37,110 acres. The cultivation of sugar-cane extended, but the total area under sugar of all kinds was less than 44,000 acres. Among fruit-trees doorians appear to be ousting oranges; more than a fifth of the orange garden-land in Amherst disappeared during the year and the loss was only partially made good by the increase from 478 to 801 acres in the gardens of Toungoo. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

113. Experiments in the cultivation of new crops or of new varieties of crops were carried out during the year on the usual lines, seed being obtained and distributed to various districts for issue to selected agriculturists. American tobacco seed was sent to 20 districts and was raised with success in four, while in eight others heavy rain or floods spoiled the trial. The outturns per acre varied from 467 to 1,028 pounds in the case of Virginia tobacco and from 92 to 571 pounds with Havana seed and as usual obtained better prices than the native variety. Groundnuts were grown with success in Yamèthin, Meiktila and Sandoway. Liberian coffee seeds again failed to come up. Successful experiments with American cotton were conducted in Myingyan, both with seed supplied by Government and by the Burma Cotton Company, and attempts to improve the indigenous varieties met with encouragement in Meiktila. Paddy from Shwebo did very well in Yamèthin. The cost incurred by Government in connection with these experiments was Rs. 3,206. Sanction was accorded to the creation of a special Department of Agriculture for the Province for the purpose of supervising and conducting agricultural experiments on a much larger scale and in a more systematic manner than has hitherto been possible. Experimental cultivation.

Horticulture.

114. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein completed another successful season. The former incurred a further expenditure of over half a lakh in the equipment of their newly acquired gardens next the Victoria Memorial Park, but the roads and footpaths still require to be completed and the level of the northern portion to be raised. Arrangements were in progress during the year for the establishment of a branch at the Hill-station of Maymyo. The number of members and of subscriptions increased, but the interruption caused by the change of gardens considerably reduced receipts from the sale of plants and flowers. The Tenasserim Society held its 19th annual flower show at Moulmein in February 1905, when a great improvement was observed in the number and quality of the vegetable exhibits. A Chinese market gardener exhibited some fine potatoes. Agri-Horticultural Societies.

115. The experimental gardens at Taunggyi, the headquarters of the Superintendent of the Southern Shan States, at Falam, in the Chin Hills, at Sinlumkaba, the hill-station of Bhamo District, at Sima, in the hills beyond Myitkyina, and at the headquarters of the Myitkyina and Katha Districts were maintained during the year at a nett outlay to Government of Rs. 8,241. The gross expenditure, Rs. 10,328, was rather less than in 1904-05, despite the addition of a second gardener at Sima, but only Rs. 2,087 were obtained from the sale of vegetables and fruit against Rs. 2,615 in the previous year. The gardens at Sinlumkaba and Myitkyina were considerably enlarged during the year and the extensions planted with young fruit trees. The coffee plants at Sima all died; those at Myitkyina and Taunggyi, on the other hand, did very well. Apricots and peaches have hitherto failed to ripen in Falam on account of the heavy mist and a small experimental orchard was therefore started some 2,000 feet nearer sea level, Experimental gardens.

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where the fruit will have a better chance of ripening. Heavy rains spoiled the strawberries at Katha, but a good crop was obtained at Falam, where the asparagus planted two years ago also gave a fair yield. Potatoes did excellently at Katha, but the outturn of cotton was small. Virginia and Havana tobacco and American cotton succeeded fairly at Taunggyi. As a rule all the English vegetables grew admirably.

Forests.

Forest Reserves.

116. Of a total estimated forest area of 123,558 square miles on the 30th June 1906, a sixth, or 20,544 square miles, was reserved forest. The nett addition of 133 square miles to the latter area during the year of report represents the difference between the fresh area reserved during the year, 189 square miles, mostly in the Myitkyina and Shwebo Districts, and the deductions made in consequence of survey (46 square miles) or disafforestation (10 square miles). At the beginning of the year areas aggregating 1,641 square miles were under settlement for the purpose of notification as reserved forests and 378 square miles more were taken in hand. Proceedings costing in all Rs. 23,415 were completed over a considerable area during the year, notably in the Tenasserim Division, and the proposed reserves will be notified in due course. Of the total reserved area 708 square miles were burdened with certain rights of cultivation.

Demarcation and Surveys.

117. Expenditure on the demarcation of forest boundaries amounted to Rs. 24,257, or Rs. 5,153 more than in 1904-05, but the increase in the extent of boundary treated was not greater in proportion. It is estimated that out of a total length of boundaries exceeding 17,000 miles, 549 miles, mostly in the Southern Circle, have not so far been touched on. Surveys on the 4-inch to the mile scale were made during the year by Survey of India Party No. 20 of 1,258 square miles, mainly in the divisions of the Northern Circle, and at the close of the year the total area so surveyed amounted to 12,408 square miles. In addition local officers mapped 219 square miles with interior details and executed boundary surveys of an area of 393 square miles. The total expenditure on surveys of all kinds during the year was Rs. 1,73,782 and the total expenditure to date on forest surveys nearly 15 lakhs of rupees.

Working-plans.

118. The paucity of Forest Officers seriously retarded the progress of the important duty of preparing detailed schemes for working the various forests and to some extent prevented full adherence to the plan of operations laid down in the schemes already sanctioned. In the Pegu and Tenasserim Circles no regular working-plans party was employed and there were only three such parties in all, two in the Northern and one in the Southern Circle, as compared with five in the previous year. In consequence, although working-plans for forests extending over 686 square miles in the Tharrawaddy, Rangoon, Pegu and Ruby Mines Divisions were completed and approved during the year, thereby raising the total area for which plans have been sanctioned to 4,074 square miles, the fresh area taken in hand during the year was considerably less than in 1904-05. A new and much cheaper system of collecting *data* for the preparation of the working-plans of the less valuable forests was tried in the Southern Circle. Two preliminary plans were sanctioned, one for 301 square miles of reserves in the Thayetmyo District and the other for 190 square miles in the Myittha Division.

Forest roads.

119. Rupees 21,324 were expended during the year on the construction of 69 miles of new roads and 500¾ miles of bridle paths and elephant tracks, in addition to an outlay of Rs. 9,700 on repairs to 950 miles of existing roads and paths. The expenditure was less than in the previous year, but the mileage of new roads and paths was much more. Increased attention was paid to this important subject and road programmes were drawn up. In the Pyinmana Division it was decided that the Forest Department should combine with the district authorities in extending the system of roads outside the forests in order to provide adequate facilities for the extraction of timber.

Forest offences.

120. Prosecutions for forest offences were instituted in 3,722 new cases, or 329 cases more than in the previous year, and of 3,370 cases disposed of 94·57 per cent. or all but 183 ended in a conviction. Cases pending at the close of the year numbered 363 as compared with 128 on 30th June 1905. The increase, ascribable generally to greater strictness in dealing with petty offences, was contributed by all circles but the Tenasserim Circle, where there were only 1,089 cases, or 262 fewer than in the previous year. The excess in the Pegu Circle came mainly from the newly constituted Arakan Division, where the strengthening of the forest staff resulted in a rise in the number of prosecutions from 84 to 344. Cases taken into Court numbered 1,190, and convictions were obtained in over four-fifths of this number while 2,180 cases were compounded by Forest Officers for Rs. 37,177. The majority of the prosecutions were for unauthorized felling or appropriation of forest produce; these numbered 2,419 as compared with 2,096 in the previous year. Prosecutions for grazing cattle without permission in prohibited areas were 50 fewer, but there was a rise, for which the cultivators of hill clearings in Minbu were responsible, of 26, from 88 to 114, in the number of cases of incendiarism. In the Upper Chindwin Division a Deputy Ranger and a local trader were convicted of marking and utilising green teak; each was fined Rs. 100 and the former was dismissed from Government service. In the Mu Division four sawyers were convicted of collecting and converting drift teak; they were each sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment, and the purchasers of the stolen timber to six months.

Fire-protection.

121. Fire-protection measures were applied over an area of 8,213 square miles, or 55 square miles less than in the previous year, an increase of 165 square miles in the Pegu Circle being neutralised by the exclusion of 202 square miles in the Tenasserim Circle. The hot weather of 1906 was very prolonged and fires in consequence were numerous. Nearly 90 per cent., or 2 per cent. less than in 1905, of the area dealt with was successfully protected, the percentage being lowest (65) in the Myittha Division of the Northern Circle. In the Pegu Circle no fewer than 35 fires burning 52,415 acres originated through the carelessness of those engaged in conservancy operations, while in Toungoo one fire crossed the fire-traces and ravaged 38,871 acres. The carelessness of travellers was as usual responsible for a considerable proportion of the damage and one large fire in the Shwegyin Division was the deliberate work of elephant thieves, desirous of destroying their tracks. The total cost of fire conservancy operations was 2¾ lakhs, or slightly more than in 1905, an average of Rs. 37·3 for each square mile protected.

Plantations and experimental cultivation.

122. The regular plantations maintained by the Forest Department extended on the 30th June 1906 to 5,829 acres, 52 acres in the Pegu Division being under cutch, 2,132 acres in the Tenasserim Division under rubber and the balance under teak. Plantations on hill-clearings, mostly of teak, covered 70,555 acres, or 2,117 more than in 1905, while "cultural operations" were carried on over an area of 30,321 acres, a net increase of 6,545 acres as compared with the previous year. With the exception of 23 acres of *padauk* in Toungoo Division, and of some cutch in Thayetmyo, Minbu and Prome, all the new hill-clearing plantations were of teak, while broad-cast sowing in Minbu with teak and dibbling teak-seed in Pyinmana constituted by far the greater portion of the cultural operations. Most interesting of all, in view of the constantly increasing demand and the high prices obtainable for its produce, is the rubber plantation and experimental garden near Mergui. The former was started in 1900-01 and by the end of the year of report an area of 1,957 acres had been planted with rubber at a total cost, inclusive of establishment and management charges, of Rs. 2,29,871. There was a marked improvement in the condition of the enclosed part of the plantation and a further addition to the fenced-in area was contemplated. A large number (over 400,000) of seeds were sown and nearly 170,000 plants were put down to fill up blanks. In April 1906, 8,352 *Hevea* trees were counted in the experimental garden and of these 3,446 were 2 feet and over in girth. The latter were tapped every alternate day for seven months from October to April and 1,908 pounds of dry rubber were obtained. The cost of collection amounted to two-thirds of a rupee per pound and

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the total amount received in London from the sale of 1,339½ pounds, less charges, was £347. Rather more than one-half of the rubber sold at six shillings the pound and the lowest price received was five shillings. Altogether since its inception the garden has yielded nearly Rs. 16,000 in sale proceeds of rubber, plants and seeds.

The experiments with mahogany near Rangoon and Tharrawaddy proved failures, but the *Hevea* rubber plants at Pegu are growing well.

Extraction and sale of timber.

123. The only change of note in the method of exploiting the forests took place in the Northern Circle, where the extraction of teak by departmental agency, that is, by contractors working under the direct orders of the forest officers, was abandoned altogether in favour of the contract-purchase system under which the forests are leased. As compared with 1904-05, there was a considerable decline in the number of trees girdled, the respective totals being 80,080 and 71,885. In the Pegu Circle, where 94·5 per cent. of the teak was extracted by Government agency, a falling off in the quantity available for sale was neutralised by increased extraction in the Tenasserim Circle, and in all, despite the abandonment of the system in the Northern Circle, 86,702 tons, as compared with 77,343 in the previous year, out of a total output of teak amounting to over 225,000 tons, or rather more than in 1904-05, were extracted by Government agency or obtained by salvage operations or confiscation. In the Tenasserim Circle a favourable season enabled the forest lessees to increase their output considerably while a start was made with Government extraction in the Minbu Division of the Southern Circle. In the extraction of reserved timber other than teak there was a decline of 445,000 cubic feet to a total of 4·1 million cubic feet, attributed to the exhaustion of the more accessible forests, and in some measure to the cattle disease which prevailed during the year. The Northern Circle nearly doubled its small output under this head, but the other three circles, notably the Tenasserim Circle, which contributes the bulk of the supply, shared in the decrease. Much more marked, however, was the falling off, similarly explained, in the quantity of unreserved woods extracted, whether for firewood or for other purposes. Fuel decreased from over 22 million cubic feet to under 17 millions and the total deficiency below the output of unreserved woods during the previous year was all but 10 million cubic feet or 25 per cent.

The extraction of *pyinkado* wood for sleepers continued under the agreement with the Burma Railways Company and the difficulties at first experienced in getting contractors at the rate of payment given by the Company disappeared with its enhancement. Extraction of *padauk* wood was also carried on, but there was very little demand for the large surplus remaining after the wants of the Government Ordnance Factory had been supplied. Further attempts were made to popularise some of the less known varieties of timber from the Tenasserim forests and fair prices were realised for some specimens in the London market.

Miscellaneous.

124. An expert from England was engaged during the cold weather in making experiments with various woods, grasses and bamboos supplied by the Forest Department for the purpose of ascertaining their suitability for conversion into wood-pulp fit for paper manufacture. The Government Tannin Factory was closed in August 1905; a considerable quantity of extracts from various barks was sold, but the prices obtained were not commercially profitable. Specimens of forest produce were collected and forwarded as usual to the Agricultural Chemist and Imperial Botanist for analysis or identification. Fifteen new pupils entered the Forest School at Tharrawaddy and 14 students were awarded certificates, six being "Higher." The conduct of the subordinate forest establishment shewed no improvement.

Mines and Quarries.

Grant of new concessions.

125. Ninety-three applications for the various forms of mineral concessions permissible under the Government of India Mining Rules were received during the year which ended on the 31st March 1906, and during the same period 49 were granted and 30 either refused or withdrawn. If the figures for March 1905,

excluded from the Report for 1904-05, be added, the three totals would be 100, 54 and 33. The majority of the applications were for prospecting licenses; of these 37 were applications for licenses or for renewal of existing licenses to prospect for petroleum and 12 for permission to prospect for gold. During the year an officer of the Geological Department of India was engaged in a survey of the gold-bearing river valleys of Burma with a view to the preparation of rules regulating the grant of concessions for gold dredging. No lease was issued and no important discoveries of new mineral deposits were reported. Licenses for the extraction of clay, laterite, gravel, sandstone, lime-stone and granite were issued as usual under the local rules under the Land and Revenue Act and Regulation, and work was carried on as heretofore in the marble quarries of Mandalay, where 61 licenses were issued to the hereditary workers, and in the steatite quarries of Minbu.

Petroleum.

126. The exploitation of the Burma oil-fields was carried on with unabated vigour and the output for the 12 months preceding the 1st January 1906 rose by over 26 million gallons to a total exceeding 142 millions. Despite extensive prospecting operations by the Burma Oil Company, no new oil-lands were discovered and from the report of a Government Geological expert, who examined the existing fields during the current year, it appears improbable that success will attend operations in the majority of the unworked areas over which concessions have been granted. To the increased output the Yenangyat field in Pakôkku District contributed practically nothing, but nearly 14 million gallons more came from the recently discovered field at Singu in Myingyan District. As usual the bulk of the total output was obtained from the small area adjoining the town of Yenangyaung in Magwe, where the Burman oil-seekers have worked for many years. No change took place in the Akyab and Kyaukpyu oil-fields where the joint output did not much exceed 100,000 gallons; the improvement in the latter district in 1904 caused by the sinking of new wells was not lasting and the outturn in 1905 fell by a third.

Rubies.

127. No new ruby-bearing locality was discovered and with the exception of a few prospectors in Myitkyina the mining industry was monopolised by the Burma Ruby Mines Company and its licensees in the Ruby Mines District. The value of the rubies found in 1905, Rs. 13,91,560, was practically the same as in 1904, despite increased expenditure, but the amount of royalty received by the Company from the native miners fell by Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 1,81,932. The ruby market was rather dull for part of the year and the demand from Mandalay was affected considerably by the prevalence of plague in that city. Since January 1906 there has been a marked improvement in the return from royalties. The drainage tunnel made good progress, a further length of 1,604 feet being excavated.

Gold.

128. No gold was mined during 1905 and the production of the precious metal in the Province was restricted to the operations of the Burma Gold Dredging Company in the Upper Irrawaddy River and to the infinitesimal quantities obtained by primitive methods of gold washing. The total output of the Company, despite the employment of two dredgers on the work, was only 620 ounces, valued at Rs. 36,178.

Other minerals.

129. The marked improvement in 1904 in the output of the Myitkyina Jade Mines continued during 1905, when 2,685 hundredweights of jade, valued at Rs. 2,71,027, were extracted, but the corundum mines were deserted. Mergui and Tavoy produced 1,495 hundredweights of tin and tin ore, valued at Rs. 1,46,750. Copper valued at Rs. 63,000 was extracted in Mandalay District and 161 pounds of tourmaline worth Rs. 22,400 were won by 232 licensees in the Ruby Mines District, but the earlier finds were soon exhausted. No further steps were taken to work the plumbago concessions in the same district. The amber mines of Myitkyina produced 126 hundredweights of amber as compared with 86 in 1904, but the value rose very slightly to Rs. 14,180. Prospecting operations for coal were carried on in several districts, but no regular mining was done except at Kalewa in the Upper Chindwin District, where a good quality of coal is said to be found.

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Manufactures.

Principal industries.

130. There was no perceptible change during the year of report in the nature of the principal industries of the Province. The great majority are carried on in the homes of the workers and only in very few instances have native industries been organised on Western lines. Cheroot-making is perhaps the chief example of work conducted on a large scale by a single employer who is a native of the country and who works in the old way without imported machinery. Cotton ginning mills there are in plenty, owned for the most part by Chinamen, but they are nearly all small concerns. Cotton spinning and weaving establishments are non-existent and all the cotton garments used in Burma are made from cloth imported from Europe or England or woven in slowly decreasing quantities in the village handlooms by the women of the family. Rice-milling for export purposes gives employment to a large number of people, but most of the employés are natives of India. Timber mills also are numerous and work in the forests, felling and extracting the teak so much used in the building of railway carriages and the interior work of warships and other vessels, employs a large number of people. Silk weaving appears to hold its own despite the competition of the cheaper but less lasting qualities imported from Japan, but it is entirely carried on as a home industry.

Factories.

131. The extension during the year 1905 of the provisions of the Indian Factories Act, 1881 (which does not apply to the Upper Province), to ten rice-mills, seven saw-mills and to the Rangoon Port Trust Workshop brought the total number of the factories under the Act to 221, of which 107 are situated in Rangoon. Six of the added factories were in Pegu District, where hitherto the Act has not been applied and there were three more factories in Prome, three more in Hanthawaddy and Toungoo, and two more in Amherst. The Act ceased to apply to one saw-mill in Tharrawaddy and to one rice-mill in Rangoon, but the decrease in Rangoon was neutralised by the inclusion of two more saw-mills and the Port Trust Workshop. The number of factory employés fell to 31,531; the decrease of 3,459, as compared with the corrected total for 1904, is ascribed partly to the prevalence of plague, combined with the fact that many factory hands took advantage of a rate war between the rival steamship companies to re-visit their homes in India, and partly to the erroneous inclusion in the total for the previous year of men working in boats and storehouses connected with factories but not in the factories themselves. The number of women employed fell from 783 to 649 and of children from 214 to 159, of whom 35 were girls. Wages continued high and were in no way below the market rates outside. Nine cases of cholera occurred in Akyab among factory hands, but the outbreak was promptly stamped out. Elsewhere the health of employés was good and sanitary arrangements were found by Inspecting officers to be generally satisfactory. The Rangoon Government Press continued to be overcrowded and its bad example was followed by four other printing presses in the town. Some improvement was effected in the accommodation for the rice-mill hands at Bassein and similar steps were found necessary at Pegu in the new factories which came for the first time under the Act. In many of the districts under the Act the prescribed number of inspections was not carried out, but steps were taken to ensure the non-recurrence of such neglect. Accidents, all due to non-preventible causes or to carelessness on the part of the persons injured, fell largely from 161 in 1904 to 113 in the year of report, but as in the former year 7 terminated fatally. Orders were issued requiring the conduct of a formal inquest in the case of every fatality, however undisputed the cause of death and the freedom from responsibility of third parties for the accident. The local manager of a native-owned rice-mill in Moulmein was fined under section 15 (1) of the Act for failure to give his employés the prescribed holidays.

Trade.

Maritime Trade—Total Value.

132. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Province during the 12 months which ended on the 31st March 1906 again surpassed all previous records with a rise to 42¾ crores of rupees. Compared with the increase in the previous year of 6·8 per cent., the advance by 55 lakhs, or 1·3 per cent., would call for little comment, were it not for the fact that it came entirely from trade with India. There was actually a decrease of 158⅓ lakhs in the value of the aggregate foreign trade, due to smaller shipments of rice, but this was more than made good by the rise of 2 crores 13¼ lakhs in the value of the coasting trade. By far the larger proportion of this rise of over 12 per cent. came from exports. The coasting trade of the Province, which in 1904-05 formed only 38 per cent. of the total, rose in the year of report to over 44 per cent. The port of Rangoon absorbed 83 per cent. of the entire trade as compared with 81 per cent. in 1904-05 and the second place was taken, a long way behind, by Moulmein with 7·41 per cent. Trade with the United Kingdom constituted just under a third of the whole, rather less than in the previous year, Japan (which also shows a decrease) and the Straits Settlements coming next with 15·23 and 14·10 per cent. respectively.

Foreign Imports—Rangoon.

133. All but 15½ of the 826 lakhs value of foreign imports into the Province were landed at Rangoon, but even this large total as compared with the previous year represented a falling off of 84 lakhs, or nearly 9½ per cent. Smaller imports of galvanized iron sheets, tinned sheets and "all other sorts of iron," consequent on overstocking in previous years, account for over 31 lakhs of the decrease; the value of yarn and textile fabrics declined by 24¾ lakhs, and that of kerosene oil by 10⅓ lakhs. The decline in kerosene oil is particularly notable, in view of the improvement in the quality of the refined product of the Burma oil-fields. No Russian oil was imported; the American imports were little more than a million gallons or half the quantity brought in during the previous year and oil from the Dutch East Indies fell from 344,000 gallons to less than 80,000. Cotton manufactures contributed 29 per cent. of the total imports and their gross value fell very slightly by 4 lakhs. An increase (to which countries other than the United Kingdom contributed much more than their due proportion), of nearly 10 lakhs in the imports of twist and yarn was more than neutralised by a decline of nearly 2½ lakhs under "other cotton manufactures" and of 11½ lakhs under piece-goods. The decrease in piece-goods principally affected the United Kingdom, which still retained 80 per cent. of the trade, and is attributed to the high prices ruling in Europe and the consequent successful competition of the Indian mills. Imports of raw silk declined by over three-fourths of a lakh in value, but the deficiency was supplied by transfrontier trade. Manufactured silks come chiefly from Japan, which still further asserted her pre-eminence in this branch of trade during the year. Woollen goods declined in value by 13·4 lakhs, in consequence of the heavy stocks in hand at the beginning of the year; 20¼ lakhs of the total imports came from the United Kingdom, nearly three times as much as from Germany. Imports of sugar rose by over 38,000 hundredweights and the value by 4½ lakhs and all were admitted at the ordinary rate of duty. Since 1901-02 the value of sugar imported from the United Kingdom has fallen from 19½ lakhs to 1½ and it now forms little more than 4 per cent. of the total. An increase of over four lakhs in the value of imported biscuits and condensed milk indicates the growing taste for these articles among the natives of the country. Rather less salt was received during the year and the value fell by over 2 lakhs, but the deficit, which chiefly affected the English variety, was more than supplied from the importations of the previous year still in bond; on the other hand there was a remarkable increase of nearly 6 lakhs in the value of salted fish received from the Straits Settlements. Hardware and cutlery imports declined by nearly 3 lakhs, the sufferers being Germany and Austria-Hungary; the value of imports from the United Kingdom, which constitute nearly two-thirds of the whole, was practically the same, while those from the United States of America, though still a small fraction of the total trade, increased by over half a lakh. Cigarettes to the value of 8·82 lakhs were imported, mostly from America, the increase of over 3 lakhs, or

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50 per cent., as compared with the figures of the previous year showing how rapidly cigarette smoking has sprung into favour among Burmans.

Foreign imports—Minor ports.

134. There was a fall of 3½ lakhs from 19 to 15½ in the value of foreign goods imported into the six minor ports of Akyab, Bassein, Moulmein, Tavoy, Mergui and Victoria Point. Moulmein, with two-thirds of the total trade, was responsible for nearly the whole decrease, which was most noticeable under the heads, "Kerosene oil" and "Other articles." The decline from over 2 lakhs to below Rs. 69,000 in the value of kerosene oil is practically a return to the figure of 1903-04. The trade of Victoria Point was better than in the previous year, but that of Mergui was half a lakh less and there was a considerable decrease at Tavoy. On the other hand Akyab for the fourth year in succession showed a marked improvement and the value of its imports, nearly 2 lakhs, was fourfold the value in 1901-02.

Foreign exports—Rangoon.

135. Exports from Rangoon to countries outside the Indian Empire increased in worth by 21⅓ lakhs, while the total value of the trade, 13 crores and 7 lakhs, was more than half as large again as that of the import trade. Hides and skins, with an increase of nearly 16 lakhs in value, were the chief contributors to the increase. The trade in these articles has been advancing very rapidly during the last five years and was especially stimulated during the year of report by a considerable rise in the price of hides. Italy took a quarter of the exports and the United Kingdom rather more. Next with an increase of 14⅔ lakhs came raw cotton, of which 98,541 hundredweights valued at over 28½ lakhs of rupees were sent out of the country, more than two-thirds of the whole going to Japan and China and practically all the rest to the United Kingdom. This quantity, although nearly double that exported in the previous year, was only 860 hundredweights above the exports in 1903-04, but the quality was better and the value more than two lakhs higher than in that year.

A rise of Rs. 3 per ton in the price of rice-bran stimulated the export trade in that article and 21,000 tons more left the port, while the value of the total quantity exported (181,352 tons) increased by over 11 lakhs to 52·36. Shipments of teak, for the most part to the United Kingdom, increased by nearly 5,000 tons, to 36,385, valued at almost half a crore of rupees or 9½ lakhs more than in the previous year. Candles were exported of the value of 16·38 lakhs, or nearly 7 lakhs above the total for 1904-05; most of the increase represents shipments to Australia where requirements, chiefly for mining purposes, rose from 1¾ lakhs in 1904-05 to 7·6 lakhs in the year of report.

As a set-off against these large advances there was first a decline of nearly 39 lakhs in the value of the shipments of rice, which aggregated 1,268,594 tons, or 163,813 tons less than in the previous year, and were valued at over ten crores of rupees, or 77 per cent. of the total foreign export trade. The decrease is mainly due to the fact that India took 125,000 tons more. While Japan remained the principal customer for Burmese rice, taking rather more than a fourth of the total, she reduced her demand during the year of report by over 135,000 tons. Extended cultivation of rice in Brazil is said to account for the falling-off in the exports to South America, but the total, though much lower than in 1904-05, is not very different from that of 1903-04. The United Kingdom took 50,000 tons less, but this decrease was more than counterbalanced by the remarkable rise from 20,000 to 94,000 tons in the quantity sent to Java, which is now in direct steamer communication with Rangoon. Shipments of kerosene oil fell by 9⅔ lakhs or more than half the value in the previous year; the decrease is ascribed to the growth of the Indian demand for Burma oil. More peas for fodder were exported to Europe, but Japan and the Straits Settlements took only a fourth of the previous year's total; owing to the high price consequent on the Indian demand and the total value of the foreign export trade in this article fell by over 2 lakhs to 21¼ lakhs.

Foreign exports—Minor ports.

136. Exports to foreign countries from the six minor ports named in paragraph 134 fell by 91¾ lakhs to slightly over 2½ crores. The falling-off was entirely under the head of rice, which constituted 89 per cent. of the whole trade and

was partly explained by increased shipments coastwise from Akyab and Moulmein. The latter port retained its lead among the minor ports with 42 per cent. of the total trade, but as in the previous year it had to yield first place to Bassein in regard to exports of rice.

Coasting trade.

137. The outstanding feature of the year's trade was the growth in the coasting traffic between the ports of Burma and India. Imports were valued at 9 crores 11 lakhs, or 23¾ lakhs (2·7 per cent.) above the previous year's total. This increase may be regarded as normal and calls for no remark beyond this, that it was contributed entirely by Rangoon. Imports coastwise at the minor ports fell by 6¼ lakhs to 193½, the articles responsible being piece-goods and kerosene oil. Fewer Indian silks and less sugar were received in consequence of the successful competition of Japan and of the Continental countries of Europe respectively; the demand for tobacco and betelnut declined, but the value of vegetable oils, notably of earth-nut oil which is used as a cheap substitute for sessamum oil in cooking, rose by 11 lakhs to 62¾. On the other hand, exports improved on even the large advance in the previous year with an increase of 1 crore 89½ lakhs, or 24½ per cent. to 977⅓ lakhs, and for the first time for some years exceeded the imports. The bulk of the exports to India consists of kerosene oil and rice. The demand for Burma rice depends on the harvest in India and the shipments in consequence vary considerably from year to year. The large advance in the total value of exports during the year of report was principally due to the greater demand for rice, of which no less than 301,980 tons, or 127,798 tons more than in the previous year, valued at 2 crores 38½ lakhs, were exported from Rangoon alone, while the minor ports increased their rice exports by 31 lakhs. The value of mineral oils sent to India rose by 27½ lakhs to close on 3 crores of rupees. The bulk of the oil went as hitherto to Calcutta, but shipments of kerosene were made for the first time to Karachi, while the value of the cargoes sent to Bombay rose from 10 to 53 lakhs and to Madras from 13·8 to 36·9 lakhs.

Transfrontier trade.

138. Land-borne trade with foreign countries and the tributary states and tribes on the Eastern and North-Eastern frontiers continued to expand during 1905-06 at much the same rate as in the previous year. As in the case of sea-borne trade, exports show the most marked increase; they rose by 20⅓ lakhs, or 11·18 per cent., to slightly over 2 crores and formed 46 per cent. of the total trade, while the value of the imports, in all 2 crores and 35 lakhs, was only 6·22 per cent. higher than the total of 1904-05. Trade with the Southern Shan States and Karenni contributed practically the whole increase, advances elsewhere being neutralised by a considerable falling off in the trade with Siam, which declined by nearly 14 lakhs to a total of 63¾ lakhs, the export of treasure alone being 6⅓ lakhs less. The decrease is attributed to an unfavourable rate of exchange, to a severe outbreak of cholera on one of the trade routes and partly to the fact that some of the trade escaped registration in consequence of its diversion by a new route to which the registering station has since been moved. Fewer cattle, elephants and silk piece-goods were imported, and the exports of European cotton piece-goods declined.

Siam.

In the trade with Western China, which rose by 5·88 lakhs to a total of 73 lakhs, the disproportion between exports and imports referred to in the Report for 1904-05 to a great extent disappeared, for the former fell by three lakhs and the latter rose by over 9 to 35·31 lakhs. Nearly 23 lakhs of the aggregate trade represent movements of treasure and the large rise in the value of imports is almost wholly explained by an increase of 5 lakhs under this head and of 3½ lakhs in the value of opium. The increase in opium openly imported is said to be neutralised by a decrease in smuggling. The decline of over three-fourths of a lakh in the imports of silk by sea was more than made good by an increase of a lakh in the value brought from Western China. The decrease by 7·65 per cent. in the export trade to Western China was in raw cotton and Indian twist and yarn, of which large quantities were sent in the previous year, but on the other hand, there was a rise of 1½ lakhs in the value of European piece-goods. For four months in the year the trade with Western China is entirely suspended on account of the impassable

Western China.

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state of the trade routes, but this drawback will disappear when the railway between Bhamo and Têngyüeh is constructed.

Northern Shan States.

139. The aggregate value of the trade with the Northern Shan States, the bulk of which is carried by the railway, rose by 8⅓ lakhs to over 1 crore and 19½ lakhs. If the movements of treasure be deducted, more than half the imports and nearly a third of the total trade consists of wet and dry tea, the annual consumption of which works out to about 1¾ pounds per head of the 10½ million people in Burma. Among exports manufactured cotton goods take the leading place with a total value of 19½ lakhs, or one lakh more than in 1904-05, when European piece-goods comprised two-thirds of the total as compared with only half in the year of report. The loss, however, was to a great extent neutralised by higher exports of European twist and yarn. The increase in trade was fairly general under all heads and therefore more satisfactory than an abnormal rise under one or two items.

Southern Shan States.

140. Trade with the Southern Shan States increased by 28½ lakhs; imports were 18·06 per cent. and exports 31·74 per cent. greater than in the previous year, and the aggregate value of the trade rose to 1 crore and 43 lakhs of which 43 lakhs represent movements of gold and silver. The increase, so far as it was general, was in part due to the improved dual system of registration. Among the imports live-stock took the leading place with a total value of 10·30 lakhs—a decline of three-quarters of a lakh from the total of the previous year, explained by the prevalence of rinderpest. More potatoes were received, the total quantity having risen to 2,310 tons, worth almost 2 lakhs. Among the exports, cotton manufactures took first place with a value of nearly 22 lakhs, or more than 2 lakhs higher than in the previous year, piece-goods, mostly of European make, constituing nine-tenths of the whole.

Karenni.

141. Trade with Karenni to some extent recovered the place it occupied in 1903-04 with an increase of 5·4 lakhs to slightly more than 38 lakhs, imports contributing more than three-fourths. Imports of teak logs constitute the great bulk of the trade, while more than half the exports represent remittances of silver for the financing of timber extraction.

Public Works.

General.

142. The revision of the superior establishment of the Public Works Department, referred to in paragraph 154 of the Report for 1904-05 and described in paragraph 3 above, came into force during 1905-06. In addition, a temporary appointment of Superintending Engineer for Architectural work was sanctioned in January 1906, and the Rangoon Construction Division of the Rangoon Circle was placed under the charge of the new officer in view of the important and costly buildings under construction there. A Special Electrical Inspector was appointed to supervise the rapidly extending use of electrical power in the Province. The total outlay on public works from all sources exceeded 1 crore 45½ lakhs, and was nearly 20 lakhs above the total for the previous year. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on Buildings, Communications and Miscellaneous Public Improvements was 95¼ lakhs, while establishment charges rose to over 19 lakhs.

(*i*) *Roads and Buildings.*

Metalled roads.

143. The total length of metalled roads in the whole of Burma outside municipal boundaries on the 31st March 1906 was 1,729·3 miles, and all but 112·58 miles were maintained by the Public Works Department. Only 25·44 miles —barely a third of the previous year's total—were added during the year. The longest and most important of the additions was the 16 miles of easy gradients that lift the traveller from Toungoo to the cool heights of Thandaung. This road was opened in November 1905 and has greatly reduced the time occupied on the

journey hillwards from Rangoon, but its full effect will not be felt till the completion of the large steel bridge now under construction across the Sittang at Toungoo. The long-looked-for road between Yenangyaung and the oil-fields was at last completed and should do much to facilitate the import of heavy machinery and boilers. Work was begun on the short lengths of road required to connect the important trading town of Pakôkku with Kywedi, 1¼ miles distant, where the steamers of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company make their calls in the dry weather, and Magwe, soon to become the headquarters of the Minbu Division, with its port at Nyaunghla, 1½ miles away. The road between Lashio and the station at the terminus of the Mandalay-Lashio branch of the Burma Railways was finished and little remained to be done to the road between Lèwe, the headquarters of a township in the Yamèthin District, and Ela, 10 miles distant on the line between Rangoon and Mandalay. Good progress was made with the expensive work of adapting for tonga traffic the 60 miles of hilly road which rise from Thabeitkyin on the Irrawaddy River to Mogôk and the Ruby Mines; all the stone metal required was collected and a fourth of the whole distance completed. Much work was done in connection with the improvement of the important highway between Thazi, where the Myingyan branch leaves the main Rangoon-Mandalay Railway, and Taunggyi, 104 miles distant in the Southern Shan States. The construction of new and the improvement of existing roads received much attention in the Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Amherst Districts, while a 60-foot truss bridge was built over the Tapun stream in Tharrawaddy. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

144. The total length of unmetalled roads in the Province at the end of March 1906 is returned at 8,362·38 miles, of which 5,756·53 miles were maintained by the Public Works Department, the mileage added by the Department during the year being only 199¼. The earthwork was nearly completed on the stretch of 30 miles which forms the second section of the road from Seikpyu on the Irrawaddy River to Saw at the foot of Mount Victoria. Good progress was made with a large timber bridge of four 60-foot spans over the Panlaung River in the Kyauksè District on the road between Minzu on the railway and Dayègaung on the borders of the non-irrigated tract. Work on the frontier roads continued, but sickness among the navvies seriously impeded progress on the conversion from a bridle path to a cart-road of the track between Pagayè, 11 miles from Tavoy, and Myittha, 37 miles away on the Siamese border. This road is of importance in view of the increasing attention paid to the district by prospectors for minerals. A new road, from Ramree to Uga in the Kyaukpyu District, 17·31 miles in length, was taken in hand and most of the earthwork and bridging completed, while the 26 miles of road between Myinbyin and Ramree were finished. Considerable advance was made in Mergui in the long-delayed work of opening up the district for the exploitation of its mineral resources; the rough track between the township headquarters at Bôkpyin and Yangwa was extended to Karathuri, the centre of some important tin mines, while the bridle path from Victoria Point to Champang village was extended six miles further in the direction of its ultimate objective, Tilok Besar. The construction of a cart-road between Maliwun and the sea at Victoria Point made some progress; the completed work will be of service to the new Company which has taken over the tin-mining concession at Maliwun. Unmetalled roads.

145. A definite scheme for the planting of roadside avenues was drawn up, but was not finally issued till after the close of the year of report. Nine inspection bungalows and one district bungalow were built and work was commenced or nearing completion on several others. The total expenditure from Provincial Funds on communications amounted to nearly 40 lakhs (3¼ lakhs over the previous year's total) and out of this the outlay on new works was 20¾ lakhs; both these amounts are exclusive of establishment charges and cost of tools and plant. Miscellaneous work connected with roads and expenditure.

146. Apart from the construction of buildings for the garrison of Imperial troops in the Province, little of the work done during the year was debitable to Imperial Funds. The wireless telegraph stations on Slipper and Diamond Islands were completed, thus establishing telegraphic communication with the Andaman Buildings—Imperial.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Buildings—Provincial.

Islands, but certain alterations and improvements are required to make the station on the former island satisfactory.

147. Rangoon was the scene of the most important building operations carried on by the Public Works Department during the year, and for the large increase of nearly 12 lakhs, from Rs. 34,30,964 to just over 46 lakhs, in the expenditure on original works, as distinct from repairs to existing buildings. Work at the new General Hospital was pushed on rapidly and by the end of the year the internal brickwork of the main building and of the ward for paying patients was practically completed, while work on the outside was only delayed by want of suitable stone for the cornices and for facing purposes. In constructing the floors reinforced concrete was used for the first time in a public building in Burma. Of the subsidiary buildings, houses for the Resident Medical Officer and for one Assistant Surgeon were completed and quarters for the Matron and Nurses were well above the ground. The long delayed Chief Court building was started in November and by the end of the year much of the work on the foundations had been completed. The side wings of the new Public Offices, usually known as the Secretariat, were completed, with great advantage to the appearance of the main building. The total cost of the building from first to last has been 25 lakhs of rupees. Apart from these large and expensive buildings, the main cause of the increased expenditure during the year was the demand for accommodation for the newly constituted Judicial Service. In many instances additions were made to existing court-houses, but in others entirely new and separate buildings were erected. Accommodation was thus provided for subordinate judicial or executive officers at Paungdè, Myaungmya, Einmè, Wakèma, Ôkpo, Henzada, Nyaunglèbin and Kyauktan in Lower Burma and at Yamèthin and Hômalin in Upper Burma, while many other court-houses were either commenced or in course of construction during the year. At Pegu the Sessions Judge's new court was completed for his occupation and good progress was made in the erection of the court required by the District Judge. The large addition to the Accounts Department establishment consequent on the transfer from Calcutta of the Forest Accounts Audit and the growth of the Paper Currency Department necessitated an extension of the existing office accommodation and the work was well advanced by the close of the year. For the Forest Department three new offices were under construction and one of these at Mogôk was completed. Four new Post Offices were erected as well as five combined Post and Telegraph Offices and a Telegraph office at Mogaung. Among the new educational buildings, the most important was the Anglo-Vernacular School at Sagaing with its ancillary residential quarters. The new Mogôk Jail was completed and much was done to remedy the present lack of solitary cells in the other jails of the Province. The creation of the Southern Shan States Battalion of Military Police necessitated somewhat extensive building operations at Taunggyi, where permanent barracks for four companies were completed and occupied before the end of the year. The defences of several Police posts were improved and strengthened. Five new Civil Police stations were completed, two of them, at Dedayè and Papun, being first class stations, and numerous barracks and cottages for the force were constructed elsewhere. Five new Civil Hospitals were built, one at the headquarters of the Ma-ubin District, and the others at Township Headquarters in the Henzada and Hanthawaddy Districts, and a new ward for 40 patients was completed at St. John's Leper Asylum, Mandalay. Of buildings provided for the use of the Public Works Department, the most important was the combined office erected at Rangoon for the Executive Engineers, Rangoon and Hanthawaddy Divisions. Several officers of the various departments were provided with houses. The summer residence of the Financial Commissioner at Maymyo was nearly completed and the well-known "Salween House" at Moulmein was reconstructed for the occupation of the Commissioner of the Tenasserim Division. The labours of previous years had almost supplied the needs of the Excise Department for opium shops and only three new shops were built, that at Bôkpyin being combined with a house for the Resident Excise Officer for whom no suitable accommodation could be found in the village. Progress was made in the provision of the material

essentials of administration at the new district headquarters of Pyapôn, where the District Court-house was completed and a combined treasury, strong-room and record-room built, while a new house was provided for the Deputy Commissioner. Despite the more pressing demands of other departments, Archæology was not neglected; six pagodas at Pagan, among them the famous Ananda, were repaired and the delicate work of dismantling and restoring the graceful spire that crowns the palace at Mandalay was well on the way to a successful completion. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

148. In the smaller towns which are yet without self-government, much of the work of constructing roads, markets and other public buildings devolves on the Public Works Department. During the year of report roads were made in the railway towns of Kumè and Mahlaing in Upper Burma and in Thabyegan and Thôngwa towns, both headquarters of townships, in the Hanthawaddy district, while the road systems in the Civil Stations at Pyapôn and Taunggyi were completed. Masonry bazaars were built in the rising towns of Pyu and Kanyutkwin in the Toungoo District and similar but less substantial buildings were commenced elsewhere, while the schemes for extending the Maymyo water-supply and for bringing water to Taunggyi, Mogôk and Lashio were taken in hand. Miscellaneous.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

149. The provincial Railway system was worked throughout the year by the Burma Railways Company. No addition was made to the 1,340·15 miles of line, all on the metre gauge, open for traffic in the previous year, but considerable progress was achieved in the construction of two new branches. On the Pegu-Moulmein branch, 121·27 miles long, which passes through a tract of country at present somewhat difficult of access, 65⅔ lakhs out of an estimate of nearly 113 lakhs had been expended by the end of March 1906 and rather more than a third of the estimated cost of 54½ lakhs had been spent on the extension northwards to Kyangin, 65·66 miles distant, of the Bassein-Henzada line. Detailed surveys of three proposed extensions were made during the year; the first, from Pegu to Syriam, 67 miles in length, will tap a country rich in paddy, where the gradual silting up of the navigable streams makes its marketing annually more difficult; the second (the East Daga Loop line) will leave the present Henzada-Bassein line at Neikban and rejoin it after a course of 66 miles through a rich paddy plain at Bagayet; the third, starting from Pyiwin, a station on the Rangoon-Mandalay line to the south of Pyinmana, will run westwards towards the Irrawaddy River for 54·09 miles to Kyanzu, and will form part of a line destined to end at Magwe. In addition a reconnaissance survey was carried out for a line on a gauge of 2 feet 6 inches to connect Bhamo with the important trade centre of Têngyüeh in China, 124 miles away. The project was reported to be feasible and a detailed survey was therefore undertaken during the open season. As stated in paragraph 138 above, the trade with Western China entirely ceases during the rains and the construction of a railway would do much to develop it. Railways.

150. Breaches of the line and consequent interruption to traffic caused by floods were even more frequent than usual. The main line to Mandalay was blocked for three days in September; the Mu valley line in the North of Katha district was washed away early in July and through communications were not restored for a month. A less serious breach occurred at the same place at the end of October. The Sagaing-Alôn branch was breached no fewer than three times, on one occasion in 23 places, and the interruptions to traffic extended over ten weeks. In August a serious breach occurred on the Letpadan-Tharawaw branch and traffic eventually was wholly suspended till the end of December 1905 and was not resumed in its entirety till the 10th February 1906. A landslip on the Lashio branch necessitated transhipment for six days. Fatal accidents, whether to passengers or to railway servants were fortunately absent and only slight injuries were caused to six people, of whom two were passengers, in the three collisions which took place during the year. Railways' casualties and accidents.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Railways; financial results and traffic.

151. The capital outlay on the railway system during 1905-06 was nearly 24 lakhs and its total cost from the commencement to the 31st March 1906 13 crores 62⅓ lakhs. The gross earnings for the year exceeded 1 crore 57½ lakhs, and were 5⅓ lakhs better than the previous year, but expenditure increased in a much higher ratio by 10⅓ lakhs to 1 crore 3⅔ lakhs and the nett earnings fell by over 3 lakhs to Rs. 53,87,127. The ratio of expenditure to receipts was nearly 66 per cent. as compared with 61·3 in the previous year, and the nett receipts on the capital outlay fell from 4·3 per cent. to 4·03. The number of train miles run, 4,855,619 was nearly 300,000 more than in 1904-05, but the average earnings per train mile, Rs. 3·25, were slightly less and the average charges, Rs. 2·14, rather more than during that year. The most important item of expenditure during the year was the doubling of the single track from Insein to Letpadan on the Prome section and from Pazundaung to Pegu on the Mandalay main line. Forty-two new engines and additional coaching stock were provided and all the girder bridges from Prome to Mandalay were strengthened to bear the weight of the heavier locomotives now in use.

Tramways.

152. No addition was made to the existing number of tramways in the Province, nor was there any change in their method of working. The steam tramway over which the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company runs one passenger train daily either way between Thatôn and Duyinzeik in connection with their launch service to Moulmein earned Rs. 43,741, or nearly Rs. 6,000 less than in 1904-05, two-thirds of the receipts coming from freight on goods. The Rangoon Steam Tramway cars ran 257,134 miles, carried 3,214,097 passengers and earned Rs. 2,51,335 during the year; these figures compare unfavourably with those of the previous year when the earnings and passengers carried were more by Rs. 20,224 and 285,833, respectively, and the mileage run some 10,000 less. On the 1st March 1906 the system was taken over by the new Company which is now engaged on its electrification and extension. In Mandalay the outbreak of plague affected the traffic returns of the Electric Tramways and they carried only 2,807,337 passengers during the 12 months preceding the 31st July 1906 for a total mileage of 553,494 miles. The Company now propose to extend their lines to Shanzu railway station.

(*iii*) *Canals.*

Navigation canals.

153. The Pegu-Sittang and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canals, respectively 45½ and 14 miles long, remained open for traffic throughout the year. All other canals in Burma are primarily irrigation works and, with the exception of the Shwetachaung in Mandalay District, from which Rs. 6,050 were received in tolls during the year, are not used to any extent for traffic. The longer canal carried 168,000 tons of goods and rafted produce, valued at 96¾ lakhs, or fully 5,000 tons more than in the previous year. Paddy and rice contributed over 105,00 tons and timber came next, but far below, with 37,457 tons. The shorter canal carried only 9,658 tons, and its receipts from tolls, Rs. 5,775, were less than a third of the maintenance charges. Much more favourable results were shown by the Pegu-Sittang Canal, where the maintenance charges were less than 63 per cent. of the receipts from navigation. Considerable expenditure for the second year in succession was incurred in carrying out extensive repairs and improvements to both works and the expenditure under all heads exceeded the total revenue received (Rs. 1,64,249) by nearly Rs. 1,30,000.

Irrigation.

Major Works Imperial—(i) Completed works.

154. The Mandalay Canal was the only major irrigation work that earned revenue during 1905-06. Despite the addition of 3,200 acres of new cultivation, the total area irrigated, 41,839 acres, was 1,880 acres less than in the previous year and little more than two-thirds of the maximum area, 62,135 acres, which can receive water from the canal. The decrease is ascribed to waterlogging consequent on the failure of the cultivators to construct field channels to lead the water to the more distant fields. The closing of the construction

estimate for the canal on the 31st March 1905 and the consequent inclusion in the accounts of current expenditure of the establishment charges previously charged against capital swelled the working expenses to Rs. 1,06,181 or Rs. 26,491 more than in 1904-05. At the same time the revenue receipts rose to Rs. 2,20,257 in consequence of the full assessment of land previously wholly or partially exempted from assessment in accordance with the system of initial remissions adopted to encourage the free use of the water. Only the small proportion of 998 acres was twice cropped and practically the whole irrigated area was under rice. In addition to the usual expenditure on maintenance and repairs, capital expenditure of less than half a lakh was incurred on some improvements to drainage channels and the extension of one distributary. The average rate of revenue received for each acre irrigated during the year was Rs. 5·08 and the nett receipts represented a return of 2·06 per cent. on the total capital outlay to the end of the year of Rs. 51,53,534.

Major Works—(ii) Works under construction.

155. Work on the Shwebo and Ye-u Canals in the Shwebo District and on the Môn Canals in the Minbu District continued throughout the year. The head-works and the Main Shwebo Canal were completed and formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 15th March 1906; the two branches of the canal were nearly completed, but there still remained 110 miles of distributaries to finish. Work on the Ye-u Canal was confined to the head-works, which are a continuation of those of the Shwebo Canal. As explained in paragraph 198 of the Report for 1904-05, these had to be taken in hand before the sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the complete project. That sanction was received during the year, but, for the proper alignment of the canal and distributaries it was considered necessary to have a fresh survey of the area commanded and this survey is now in progress. The work as projected consists of a main canal 33·1 miles long, with a branch 13·2 miles long and 72·9 miles of distributaries; it will irrigate 100,000 acres and its construction will cost, in direct charges alone, 34 lakhs. Progress on the Môn Canals was slow on account of the difficulty of obtaining labour. Two-thirds of the Northern and one-third of the Southern Main Canals were excavated and all the land required for both taken up, but beyond the digging of the foundations for the undersluices and the collection of materials, nothing was done to the head-works. The total sum expended during the year on the three works fell little short of 14 lakhs.

Minor Works—Provincial.

156. The total area irrigable from the Minor Irrigation works in the dry zone of Upper Burma is roughly 645,000 acres, but the area actually irrigated in any year is usually very far short of this maximum. With some important exceptions these works were constructed before the annexation of the Upper Province, but they have been much improved in the course of time by the Public Works Department. During 1905-06 only 288,666 acres were irrigated as compared with 306,268 in the previous year, but from various causes the decline was not shared by the revenue, which amounted to Rs. 9,17,238, while the outlay fell by over Rs. 1,37,000 to Rs. 7,61,539 and the nett revenue of the year exceeded 1½ lakhs. Expenditure on new works and improvements, as distinct from repairs, fell from 4⅓ to 2⅔ lakhs, chiefly owing to the completion of large remodelling schemes in the Mandalay, Kyaukse and Minbu Districts, but the cost of current repairs rose by Rs. 38,000 to 2⅔ lakhs. Comparatively few new works were taken in hand. Improvements were begun on the old Myaungmadaw Canal in Mandalay District near Tonbo railway station on the Lashio Branch, and the remodelling of the Mindan Tank in Yamèthin District and of the Inyin Weir in the Meiktila District, both damaged by floods during the year, was taken in hand. In Minbu District the building of the outlet heads for the water-courses was all that remained to be completed of the extensive scheme of remodelling which has been in progress for several years on the Man River irrigation system.

CHAPTER V.
REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ended the 30th June 1906.
Excise Administration Report for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Salt Administration Report for the year 1905.
Note on the Administration of Stamp Revenue for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Note on the working of the Income-Tax Act for the year ended the 31st March 1906.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year 1905-06.
Fortieth issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1906 and the four preceding years, Vol. II, Table 6.
Thirteenth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps and VIII—Income-Tax.

Gross Revenue.

157. The sum total of all receipts of the year preceding the 1st April 1906 to the credit of Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds was in round numbers 10 crores 1⅓ lakhs of rupees, or £6,675,000 sterling, calculating at the rate of 15 rupees per sovereign. Of this amount the Imperial share was 397⅔ lakhs, or £2,651,000 sterling, a decrease of 6¾ lakhs as compared with the receipts of the previous twelvemonth, explained by the considerable decline in the export duty on rice, which is an Imperial asset entirely; Provincial Funds received 420⅓ lakhs or £2,802,000 sterling, an increase of nearly 34½ lakhs over receipts in 1904-05 to which all the important heads of revenue contributed; while the various District (Cess), Port and Municipal Funds covered by the expression Local Funds collected no less than 183⅓ lakhs, or £1,222,000 sterling, the capital loans of 27·3 and 7·66 lakhs of rupees raised during the year by the Rangoon Port Trust and Rangoon Municipality respectively being the chief cause of the increase of 42¾ lakhs above the total collections made within the previous year. The gross expenditure under all heads rose by nearly a crore of rupees to 687 lakhs, or £4,580,000 sterling, and in the case of expenditure from Provincial Funds was met to the extent of more than 26 lakhs out of the accumulated balances of past years.

(*a*) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

Land Revenue.

Land Revenue receipts.

158. Receipts credited to the Major Head Land Revenue are divisible equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds, but the Imperial half is burdened with the contributions made from the Imperial Exchequer to the Provincial Budget and in consequence out of 383 lakhs collected within the year ended 31st March 1906, the Imperial share amounted to only 120 lakhs, or 6½ lakhs less than in 1904-05. The decrease, however, concealed an actual increase of much the same amount, for it represented the reduction caused by extra contributions aggregating 12¾ lakhs made to Provincial funds out of the Imperial surplus for the re-organisation of the police in accordance with the approved recommendations of the Police Commission, for the improvement of primary education and of the Veterinary and Agricultural Departments, and for grants-in-aid to incorporated local funds. The collections for the year were only 12¼ lakhs in advance of those made during its predecessor, the increase, 3·3 per cent., being considerably below normal. Agriculturally, as explained in Chapter II above, the season was unfavourable, remissions of revenue were much heavier and collection more difficult. The Report on the Land Revenue Administration deals with the agricultural

year which closed on the 30th June and in consequence the statistics of revenue there given differ from those exhibited in the Financial Accounts of the Province for the financial year ending on the 31st March. The great bulk of the revenue is, however, assessed and collected during the nine months common to both years and in most years the explanations of variations given in the departmental report are equally applicable to the fluctuations shown in the Accounts. *Ordinary land revenue*, that is, revenue actually levied on the land under occupation in Lower Burma and under at least partly successful cultivation in Upper Burma, has already been dealt with in paragraph 28 above. The total receipts in the agricultural year were actually less than in its predecessor, but owing to the issue of orders requiring district officers to complete collections as far as possible before the end of March, the amount realised within the financial year was nearly 12½ lakhs in excess of the realisations within the previous financial year. Further, in consequence of the large areas acquired for the extension of the Railway system, there was an increase of Rs. 1,80,000 in the capitalised value of land debited against the Burma Railways Company in the Capital Account. As a set-off to these advances there was a decrease of half a lakh in the revenue derived during the agricultural year from fisheries (28·85 lakhs) and of all but four lakhs in the receipts under the various heads classed in the Financial Accounts as Miscellaneous land revenue. The decreased fishery revenue is explained by the fact that the previous season was unfavourable and many of the lessees of fishing rights then lost money on the year's operations. The annual auction of fishing rights (and the majority of fishing rights are auctioned annually) takes place before the expiry of the current leases and the prices obtained are largely determined by the results of the current year's operations. A subsidiary cause of the decrease, in the case of the fisheries in the Mandalay Division, was the announcement at the fishery auctions of certain restrictions which it was intended to impose for the first time in the ensuing year in the interests of fish conservancy. These restrictions were imposed as the result of certain enquiries which conclusively showed that the supply of fish was gradually being lessened by over-fishing. The chief contributors to the receipts classed in the Financial Accounts as *Miscellaneous Land Revenue* are the capitation-tax levied on all males between certain ages in Lower Burma unless expressly exempted and the *thathameda* or household tax levied in Upper Burma. The former tax realised 49·58 lakhs nett, that is, deducting collections of sums in excess of the demand or subsequently remitted, a decrease of Rs. 27,000 as compared with the figures for the previous year, which is explained partly by an increase of half a lakh to Rs. 98,044 in the amount remitted, partly to the exodus of Upper Burmans to their districts in consequence of the comparatively favourable season of 1904-05 and partly to the smaller demand for outside labour caused by the unfavourable harvest. The number of persons assessed to the tax, 1,210,895, was only 5,575 more than in 1904-05, while the total of persons exempted increased by 5,055 to 139,179. For over 1,000 of the additional exemptions the application of the Income-Tax Act to the whole of Lower Burma was responsible, but it is probable in view of the much larger increase in the case of income-tax assessees, that this number does not represent much more than a third of those who ceased for the first time to pay capitation-tax. In Upper Burma receipts from *thathameda* fell by 2½ lakhs to 46 lakhs, entirely in consequence of the reduction of the average district rate per household in Magwe, where land revenue rates were for the first time generally imposed and collections of *thathameda* were all but 3¼ lakhs less than in 1904-05. But for this the total proceeds of the tax would have been much larger, for 21,239 more households were assessed, Magwe and Myingyan districts alone giving about a third of this increase, and exemptees, who numbered 107,144, were 1,926 fewer, the standard of exemption on the score of poverty rising with the reduction of the rate in Magwe.

Of the remaining heads included under *Miscellaneous Land Revenue* which contributed in all 24¾ lakhs during the agricultural year, the most important is that to which receipts from petroleum, rubies, jade and amber are credited; these fell by Rs. 62,000 to 19·4 lakhs. The decrease was practically the amount by which royalties on rubies declined, but this small decline would scarcely

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have affected the total revenue under this head, had the receipts from petroleum royalty yielded their accustomed advance. This, however, they failed to do.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

159. Mention has been made in paragraphs 153 to 156 above of the amount of revenue derived from canals and irrigation works during the financial year 1905-06. Receipts from canals used for navigation purposes only are wholly Provincial; those derived from the Minor Irrigation Works are included in the land revenue assessment and dealt with accordingly, while receipts from Major Irrigation Works alone are wholly Imperial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

160. Duties on imports other than salt and on exports, which constitute all but a fraction of the receipts collected by the Customs-houses of the Province, are entirely an Imperial asset. During the year that ended on the 31st March 1906 they amounted to 129¼ lakhs, or 17⅓ lakhs less than the receipts (revised figures) for the previous twelvemonth, almost entirely because of the increased demand for rice in India and the consequent decline in the quantity exported to foreign countries, including British possessions outside India, on which alone duty is leviable. The Provincial share, contributed mainly by overtime and holiday fees, amounted to the small sum of Rs. 86,447.

Opium.

161. Receipts credited to the Major Head Opium, which is wholly Imperial represent the cost of opium, at Rs. 8-8-0 a seer, supplied by the Government of Bengal for distribution to the licensed Opium shops in Burma. They amounted to Rs. 6,08,306 as compared with Rs. 6,49,480 in the previous year. The reduction is attributed to the exercise by Resident Excise Officers of their new power to restrict the quantity sold to each purchaser to the amount which he requires for his personal use.

Salt.

162. Revenue falling under the Major Head Salt is divided equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds, which benefited to the extent of Rs. 41,063 each from an advance of double that sum in the collections (Rs. 18,07,412) credited to this head during the calendar year 1905, with which the Report on the Administration of the Salt Revenue deals. The increase was made up of (in round figures) Rs. 40,000 from Excise duty on salt manufactured in Burma (Rs. 3,12,628) and Rs. 21,000 each from Customs duty on Salt, aggregating 13¾ lakhs and the duty (Rs. 1,24,127) realised on imports of salted fish, which, though coming to Burma from the Straits Settlements, are believed to have been the product of Annam. The increased revenue from local salt is attributable to the successful working of the system of taxation on output, which has now superseded the levy of composition duty on the vessels employed in salt manufacture in all the districts where salt is produced on a considerable scale. The new system came into force during the year 1905 in Amherst District and its introduction from the 1st January 1906 in Kyaukpyu was sanctioned. In connection with its introduction, it was found necessary to forbid storage of salt exceeding 100 viss except under a license in certain villages in the districts of Hanthawaddy, Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui. In Akyab, Sandoway and Thatôn, the only three districts of Lower Burma in which the old system will continue in force, it was decided to restrict manufacture to the local areas in which licenses were taken out in 1905 and to grant licenses only to persons licensed during that year or their heirs or persons with whom salt boiling is a hereditary occupation. No change is contemplated in Upper Burma; except in the Shwebo District the industry is insignificant, and there it will probably disappear when the complete opening of the Shwebo Canal banishes the insecurity that now characterises agricultural operations in the salt producing area and drives its inhabitants to seek an arduous livelihood in the manufacture of salt. The discontent with the new system evinced by the Bassein salt-boilers appears to have in some measure abated

with a rise in prices and those who stopped manufacture in 1905 have again resumed it in 1906. A small concession was made during the year by the exemption from land revenue of land used for purposes of salt manufacture. The duty on local salt remained unchanged at 8 annas per maund of 82⅔ pounds, or half the rate levied on imported salt. The total output of local salt during the year is estimated to have been 629,699 maunds (23,132 tons), of which only 123,989 maunds was produced in the districts where the old system remains in force and fairly accurate returns are unobtainable. Part of the output remained in bond at the close of the year but 602,707 maunds, or 22,140 tons, passed into consumption during 1905, an increase of 34,315 maunds over the consumption in 1904. At the same time duty was paid on 50,358 tons of imported salt, an advance of 781 tons on the previous year's total. Local salt thus supplied 31 per cent. of the demand, or one per cent. more than in 1904. Salt was brought from England, Germany and Aden and for the first time for some years England regained the premier position. Prices ruled lower than in 1904 and 42 per cent. of the year's supply passed out of bond when the rate per 1,000 viss (3,650 pounds or roughly 1⅔ tons) was only Rs. 70 for English and German salt and Rs. 2 lower for the Aden variety. Foreign salt again made its appearance at Akyab, where it was required to meet a considerable decline in the local output from the Kyaukpyu factories.

Excise.

163. Excise receipts are divided in the proportion of two-thirds to Imperial Funds and one-third to Provincial Funds; they aggregated 83 lakhs and Rs. 2,051 during the twelve months preceding the 1st April 1906, and were about a lakh more than the revenue realised on account of the previous year. Rather more than half the total, or 42·3 lakhs, represent profits on the sale of opium, duty on Shan and Chinese opium imported by land and fixed fees from the holders of opium licenses, for the most part licenses to sell in the 128 opium shops established by Government. The total quantity of opium issued to licensees for sale, 78,386 seers, of which 71,605 seers were Government opium, 1,408 seers confiscated opium and the remainder foreign opium imported by land for the supply of some shops in Upper Burma, was 4,766 seers less than in the previous year. As already mentioned in paragraph 161 the decline was due to the restriction of sales to individuals, which came into force on the 1st January 1905, and the result was a fall of nearly 3 lakhs in the proportion of the gross revenue from opium which is credited to Excise. Receipts from liquor taxation, however, more than made good this decline by a rise of four lakhs, as compared with the receipts for the previous 12 months, or one month less than the period covered by the figures in the Excise Administration Report for 1904-05. Despite a large reduction from 245 to 130 in the number of licenses issued for the retail vend of imported liquors and spirits, consequent on the withdrawal of licenses in the smaller towns where the taste for foreign drinks was believed not to be deeply seated, receipts from this source amounted to 11·47 lakhs, only Rs. 58,000 below the total realised for the preceding 13 months. More than half the fees were collected in Rangoon Town, where a Syndicate of Penang and Hongkong Chinamen competed for the licenses at the auctions and raised the revenue by nearly Rs. 80,000. Despite the reduction in the number of licenses, there was no falling-off in the quantity of foreign liquor that passed through the Customs; 289,607 gallons of spirits, chiefly brandy, or 22,000 gallons more than in 1904-05 paid duty, and although beer declined by 38,000 gallons, the large quantity of 896,816 gallons was imported. To some extent the increase under spirits was due to the impending enhancement of the rate of duty from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 per London Proof gallon which stimulated withdrawal from bond at the close of the year. Receipts from customs duty on imported liquors are credited to Customs and do not contribute to the Provincial revenues. Taxation of the beer brewed in Mandalay after English methods produced only Rs. 33,886; duty was paid on nearly 64,000 gallons less than in the previous year, but higher fees were obtained for the 30 shops (a reduction of 11) licensed for the sale of this drink only. The opening of a new distillery in Tavoy increased the number in the Province to five and they produced a quantity of spirit equivalent to 70,877 London Proof gallons on which duty amounting to nearly 3½ lakhs was paid, an increase of 1⅛ lakhs as compared with the previous year. At the same

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time eight outstills of the 58 licensed in 1904-05 in the Tenasserim Division were abolished and the areas which they had hitherto supplied were provided with shops subsidiary to one or other of the three distilleries in the division. Licenses for these shops were issued to the distillers subject only to payment of the prescribed rate of duty on all spirit issued to them and of the difference, if any, by which the receipts from duty in the case of each shop fell short of a sum or minimum guarantee fixed with reference to the revenue obtained when the shop was licensed under the outstill system. The experiment has been abandoned in favour of the Madras Contract Distillery system. The total receipts from taxation of country spirits in Burma, whether produced in licensed distilleries or outstills, amounted to 5¾ lakhs or Rs. 80,000 more than in 1904-05. The spirit was retailed in 133 shops, an increase of 18. The bulk of the excess revenue came from license fees for the sale of country fermented liquors. *Tari*, despite a further reduction in the number of shops from 1,089 to 1,015, produced over 6¼ lakhs, or Rs. 55,000 more than for the preceding 13 months, while 391 shops for the sale of other fermented liquors fetched 16·43 lakhs, an advance of Rs. 1,39,000. The last increase was in part due to the opening of 25 extra shops.

Stamps.

164. Receipts falling under the Major Head Stamps are mainly a Provincial asset, the Imperial share being only one-fourth. They do not include Postage and Telegraph stamps and the abolition during the year of the special one-anna receipt stamps reduced the revenue under the Stamp Act and increased that credited to the Post Office by at least Rs. 80,000 during the financial year 1905-06 while a further annual reduction of a lakh may be expected in future. The marked increase in the number of Civil Suits referred to in paragraph 77 above, swelled receipts under the Court-fees Act by over 4 lakhs of rupees, and they contributed nearly 23 of the record revenue of 36·44 lakhs realised in the twelve months ended March 1906. As a set-off, receipts under the Stamp Act, fell by Rs. 84,000, or practically the loss on one-anna receipt stamps, to slightly below 13½ lakhs. This check in receipts from stamps employed in business transactions was entirely due to the cessation of the speculation in land in Rangoon. The revenue from impressed labels, the bulk of which comes from Rangoon, fell by Rs. 89,000, a decrease of nearly 20 per cent., but this was more than neutralised by the increase of Rs. 92,419 in the receipts from impressed stamps outside Rangoon. There was a satisfactory rise from 222 to 328 in the number of cases in which action was taken by Collectors to test the value of estates concerned in probate and letters of administration cases, and although the direct gain to the revenue, as shown in the amount of deficit court-fees collected, was small, the knowledge that valuations were subjected to more searching scrutiny than formerly no doubt induced more care in their determination, with consequent benefit to the revenue. There was no change in the number of stamp-vendors and they earned practically the same amount of commission on their sales as in the previous year, thus indicating that the extra stamps were sold either direct from the depôts or by *ex-officio* or salaried vendors, drawing no commission. There was a slight increase in the amount (Rs. 22,412) of duty and penalty realised on unstamped or inadequately stamped documents, but this was entirely due to the extra activity of Collectors, whose action more than neutralised a considerable falling off in the number of documents dealt with by Civil Courts.

Assessed taxes.

165. The Provincial share of revenue collected under the Income-tax Act, 1886, is one-half, and Imperial Funds benefited only to the extent of some Rs. 82,000 in the increase in the receipts from 13·7 lakhs (revised figures) to 15·36. The Act is in force in the whole of Burma and in the Shan States, but its application was enforced only in specified localities and in the case of Government, Railway and Municipal servants. From the 1st April 1905 it was brought into operation generally throughout Lower Burma with the result that 2,527 assessees, other than Government servants, were added to the previous year's total of 15,479; 249 more Government servants were assessed and the total number of persons who paid the tax was 18,255. Objections to assessments were very numerous and more than usually successful, for the original number of assessees

was reduced by 2,181 and the demand by over 1½ lakhs. The balance outstanding on the 31st March 1906, although nearly twice as large as the balance of the preceding year was only Rs. 6,796. Fifty-four Companies paid income-tax amounting to 2·78 lakhs as compared with 56 Companies paying 2·67 lakhs in the previous year. Five Companies fewer paid in Rangoon, but three came on the list in Kyaukpyu and one in Mandalay, districts which showed blanks in the previous year. The final assessments on "*Other sources of income*" fell slightly from an average of Rs. 75·4 to Rs. 73·7 per assessee; this result was not unexpected, because many of the new assessees were residents of small villages where the amount of taxable income was formerly not considered sufficient to make it worth while to enforce the Act.

Forests.

166. The gross revenue collected by the Forest Department during the agricultural year preceding the 1st July 1906 amounted to 94·45 lakhs, or more than 15 lakhs below the total for the previous twelve months. Special causes, described in paragraph 228 of the Report for 1904-05 swelled the receipts in the Pegu and Southern Circles, and it is these circles which are responsible for the decrease in the year of report. The income from timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency fell from 59·68 to 44·83 lakhs, or practically by the extent of the decline in the gross revenue. The expenditure incurred on the operations of the Department rose by nearly 3½ lakhs to 38·64 and the surplus revenue, which is shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds fell by nearly 19 lakhs to Rs. 55,80,000, about 7 lakhs above the average surplus of the preceding five years. Increased cost of extraction accounts for 1·6 lakhs of the extra expenditure and 13·59 lakhs, or Rs. 1,13,000 more were spent on the formation, protection and improvement of forests. Revenue due to the Department at the close of the year amounted to 3½ lakhs, or slightly less than on the 30th June 1905, while contractors held in advances about the same sum as then (Rs. 3,06,000).

Imperial Expenditure.

167. Except under the heads Land Revenue and Customs, where the expenditure is debited entirely to Provincial Funds, Imperial and Provincial Funds contribute to the charges incurred under the various budget heads in the same proportion as they benefit by the revenue accruing thereunder and these contributions form the bulk of the Imperial Expenditure, so far as it is dealt with in this report. During the financial year ended March 1906 the total Imperial Expenditure was all but 54 lakhs, or 8½ lakhs more than during the previous year. Five lakhs of this came from the heavy outlay incurred in the construction of new barracks and other accommodation for the Imperial Garrison, already described in paragraph 92 above, nearly 2½ lakhs represent the Imperial share of the increased expenditure on Forest administration, while the balance was distributed between Excise, General Administration, the working expenses of the Mandalay Canal and one or two other heads.

(*b*) *REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.*

Provincial Revenues.

Provincial Receipts.

168. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads which are shared with Imperial Funds. The remaining heads, which are either entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds, produce less than 30 lakhs of the whole revenue and their annual fluctuations do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. Increased coast-light dues swelled receipts credited to Marine by Rs. 37,888, the two navigation canals of the Province earned Rs 36,976 more in dues, larger sales of tools and plant and rents for the new buildings erected for Government Officers raised receipts from Civil Works by Rs. 37,493 and Contributions showed an increase of Rs. 45,700 consequent on the further extension of the system of revenue-collection by village headmen in Lower Burma. On the other hand the smaller income from unclaimed deposits and from the sale of elephants by the Kheddah Department reduced Miscellaneous receipts by nearly Rs. 90,000.

CHAP. V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE. Provincial Expenditure.

169. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds during the financial year 1905-06 amounted to 446·6 lakhs of rupees, or £2,977,000 sterling, and thus exceeded the current receipts by 26·2 lakhs, or £175,000. The outlay on the Civil Works described in paragraphs 143 to 148 above was 114½ lakhs of rupees, or more than a quarter of the total expenditure and exceeded by 19⅓ lakhs the exceedingly high figures of the previous year. The next heaviest item was the Police, Civil and Military, on whom 103¼ lakhs were spent. The increase of some 2½ lakhs under this head was due to the introduction during the year of some of the reforms recommended by the Police Commission, as described in paragraph 51. Third, but a long way behind, came the charges on account of the Land Revenue Administration, amounting in all to 60½ lakhs, or 3·2 lakhs in excess of the outlay in 1904-05; more than half of the increase represents the extra expenditure on the surveys and re-surveys described in paragraphs 32 and 33; the balance represents in part commission on land revenue collections of the previous year, not disbursed till the year of report and extra expenditure consequent on the amalgamation of the posts of Director of Land Records and Agriculture and Settlement Commissioner and the appointment of a Deputy and a larger office staff. An additional outlay on Law and Justice of 4⅓ lakhs consequent on the introduction of a separate Judicial service raised the total charges debited to the head to 36·6 lakhs. The provincial share of the larger expenditure on Forests was 2·45 lakhs and its total liabilities under that head 19·69 lakhs. Education cost 3⅓ lakhs more; the number of Deputy Inspectors of Schools was raised and larger payments were made in the shape of building grants and contributions to the upkeep of Municipal schools and teachers. Medical charges rose by 2½ lakhs to 12·8, chiefly in consequence of the measures taken for the suppression of plague, the higher salaries paid to officers of the Indian Medical Service, the heavier expenditure on the maintenance of the Rangoon General Hospital, and increased grants for medical purposes. From the 1st October 1905 Government assumed the entire expenditure in connection with the plague preventive measures in the Port of Rangoon, over and above the ordinary expenditure on the Port Health Officer and his establishment. The cost of General Administration, 12⅔ lakhs, rose by Rs. 93,000 in consequence of the expenditure incurred in connection with the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and of additional outlay on the privilege leave pay of Commissioners and the clerical establishment of the Secretariat. The upkeep of the provincial prisons and their establishments cost 11⅓ lakhs, and this total was in excess of the expenditure during the previous year by Rs. 1,18,000, which represented the cost of the renewal of woollen clothing and of a large stock of paddy laid in for future consumption at a low price. Only four heads of expenditure show a decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year; Rs. 90,000 less were spent on the maintenance of the minor irrigation works in Upper Burma; expenditure debited to Marine fell by some Rs. 85,000 to 9⅓ lakhs in consequence of smaller purchases of new vessels, while there was a saving of nearly Rs. 58,000 under Miscellaneous Railway Expenses, and a slight fall under Stamp Charges, which were unduly swelled during the previous year by the establishment of a Central Depôt in Rangoon and its equipment with a full stock of stamps.

Local Funds.

Incorporated Local Funds.

170. The number of incorporated local funds was reduced by the conversion from the 9th December 1905 of the Taunggyi Improvement Fund into a Town Fund. The remaining 36 funds were the 20 District Cess Funds of Lower Burma, including Thayetmyo District, and the 16 District Funds of Upper Burma. The 36 funds entered on the financial year 1905-06 with a balance of 14·86 lakhs, they received in all 33·17 lakhs, they expended 32·44 lakhs, and they had in hand on the 31st March 1906 Rs. 73,000 more than their opening balance. Receipts were 5·23 and expenditure 4·68 lakhs in excess of the corresponding totals for the previous year. These large variations were mainly due to the grant of a contribution to District Cess Funds of 4½ lakhs out of the Imperial surplus, which enabled them to increase their expenditure on public works by 3¼ lakhs and their

medical and educational charges by Rs. 65,000 and Rs. 24,000 respectively. Normally about two-thirds of the receipts of District Cess Funds are derived from the 10 per cent. cess which is based on and collected with the land revenue and in consequence of the larger amount of land revenue actually collected within the financial year, receipts under this head rose by Rs. 58,000 to 18·3 lakhs. Sale proceeds of unclaimed cattle rose remarkably by Rs. 21,000 but this was to a great extent neutralised by a decline of nearly Rs. 18,000 in miscellaneous receipts, consequent on decreased income from bazaars in Pegu, Henzada and Toungoo Districts. The transfer to Imperial Funds of charges for inspection of Post-offices and of certain post-offices which were found to be paying their way slightly reduced the expenditure under that head. Only four items were lower than in the previous year; all other heads show an increase. The further extension of the village headmen's scheme added Rs. 46,000 to the contribution to Provincial Funds; commission payable on the extra cess collections, and commission in arrear from the previous year added Rs. 14,045 and Rs. 8,771 more were refunded, in sympathy with the increased remissions consequent on the destruction of crops. District Fund variations were comparatively small; increased receipts from slaughter-house licenses and cattle-pound fees swelled the revenue classed under Police by Rs. 17,000, but ferry-receipts were smaller and the income from Civil Works fell by Rs. 6,750. On the expenditure side nearly Rs. 23,000 less were spent on Public Works constructed by officers of the Public Works Department. The establishments paid out of the various funds were increased by 83 appointments during the year at a cost of Rs. 7,202.

Excluded Local Funds.

171. Funds classed as Excluded Local Funds numbered 36 but of these the Rangoon Port Trust and Pilot Funds do not bank with Government, and some account of their financial transactions during the year has already been given in paragraphs 95-6 above. There were 16 town funds, one more than in 1904-05, maintained in towns which were not thought ripe for full municipal institutions, 7 Cantonment Funds, 6 Port and 4 Pilot Funds already dealt with in paragraphs 96-7, the Rangoon Police Reward Fund and the Fund of the Educational Syndicate. The opening balance of the 34 Funds which bank with Government was 4½ lakhs, and their receipts 11¾ lakhs; they expended 11·1 lakhs including Rs. 2,70,000 on Public Works and they closed the year with Rs. 5,18,000 to their credit. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year and the only one in debt was the Bassein Port Fund, which had still Rs. 8,880 to repay to Government of the loan of Rs. 12,000 contracted in March 1903. The Cantonment Funds depend for their solvency on grants-in-aid from the Military Department and a third of the income of the Educational Syndicate Fund was derived from a grant of Rs. 20,000 from Government.

Road and Education Cesses.

172. No special cesses are levied in Burma for the construction and maintenance of roads and the provision of education.

Municipal Revenues.

Rangoon Municipality.

173. The Rangoon Municipality does not bank with Government and its transactions are therefore not shown in the Government accounts. It commenced the financial year 1905-06 with a balance of 9·94 lakhs and received during the year 41¼ lakhs, of which 7⅜ lakhs represented loans raised in the open market in connection with the improvement of the water-supply while 7½ lakhs were temporary advances and deposits. The ordinary income of the year was thus slightly more than 26 lakhs, or a lakh in advance of the receipts of 1904-05, an increase fully accounted for by the growth of *ad valorem* taxes which have naturally risen with the marked advance in rents throughout the town and the erection of large new brick buildings in place of the incommodious wooden structures which sufficed for a younger Rangoon. Expenditure exceeded the income of the year by 2½ lakhs

CHAP. V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

and was half a lakh more than the abnormal outlay in the previous year, thus reducing the closing balance to 7·69 lakhs, of which Rs. 4,85,000 represented unexpended loans, while the total indebtedness of the Fund rose to 1 crore and Rs. 13,94,000. Capital expenditure in connection with the new water-supply from the Hlawga Lake was over 8½ lakhs less, but this saving was counterbalanced by an increase of 7 lakhs under "Extraordinary and debt," consequent on heavier loans to the Land Reclamation Fund and to the resumption of full payments to the sinking funds. At the same time the purchase of an annuity for an Assistant Engineer and the outlay on the survey and demarcation of the extended limits of the Municipality helped to swell the charges for administration by Rs. 90,000 and the fight against plague called for an additional expenditure of 1½ lakhs on Hospitals and Dispensaries and of Rs. 87,000 on conservancy and street watering.

As already mentioned, land reclamation was pushed on vigorously during the year and the total expenditure amounted to 10·39 lakhs of which over 3 lakhs were met by an advance from the Municipal Fund. The total receipts, exclusive of this advance, accruing to the fund during the year amounted to only 4½ lakhs and the year closed with a credit balance of little more than a lakh, as compared with the opening balance of 3·79 lakhs.

Other Municipalities.

174. With the exception of Moulmein, all the 42 minor municipalities in the Province bank with Government. Funds in hand on the 1st day of April 1905 amounted to 6·8 lakhs and the total income received during the year to 37 lakhs, of which 4½ lakhs were derived from loans, advances and deposits. The ordinary income of the 40 municipalities dealt with in the Report for 1904-05 was 26·2 lakhs; the income of the two new municipalities, Pyapôn and Kyaiklat, added during 1905-06 was Rs. 1,14,000; there was therefore an actual increase of 5·16 lakhs in the ordinary revenue of the original 40. The credit for the greater part of the increase belongs to Mandalay, where the premia received from the lessees of the new Zegyo Bazaar opened on the 1st June 1905, and the monthly rental derived from the stall-holders brought 3¼ lakhs more to the municipal coffers. Grants and contributions from various sources amounted to 2·7 lakhs, double the figure for the previous year; the new Municipality of Pyapôn received Rs. 47,000 for the construction of roads and reservoirs for water, while Mandalay obtained Rs. 20,000 from Government for the erection of a dispensary at the Shore and a donation of Rs. 30,000 from Mr. Haji Mahomed Yusuf Ismail, Khan Bahadur, a philanthropic citizen of Rangoon, for the construction of an eye-ward in the General Hospital. The total ordinary expenditure during the year was 31·93 lakhs and the closing balance at the credit of the various funds Rs. 8,30,000. The ordinary expenditure of the two new municipalities was 1·04 lakhs and if this be deducted the charges of the 40 funds dealt with in last report were less than a lakh more than in 1904-05. Nearly Rs. 1,61,000 more were spent on roads and the measures taken to combat plague involved extra charges of 1·03 lakhs and Rs. 84,000 respectively on the upkeep of hospitals and dispensaries and on conservancy. On the other hand the completion of the Moulmein water-works and the Zegyo Bazaar at Mandalay reduced the capital expenditure on water-supply and markets by Rs. 85,000, and 1·7 lakhs respectively.

The total indebtedness of the 42 municipalities at the close of the year was slightly over 20 lakhs of rupees or much the same as in the previous year. Only two fresh loans were raised during the year, one of Rs. 80,000 in the open market by Mandalay at five per cent. interest repayable in 30 years, for the purpose of carrying out a new conservancy scheme and the other of Rs. 30,000 obtained from Government by Akyab for its water-works. The largest debtors among the municipalities were Moulmein, which still owed over 10 lakhs to the public of the loan contracted for the construction of its water-works, and Mandalay with 8 lakhs of borrowed money. Seven other municipalities owed various sums aggregating 2·85 lakhs to Government, Prome heading the list with an unpaid balance of half the total.

Other Funds.

175. There are four educational endowments and one trust fund, the Official Assignee's, which do not bank with Government.

Paper Currency.

176. The Paper Currency Office in Rangoon was first opened in August 1883 and on the 31st March following notes to the value of nearly 21 lakhs were in circulation. In March 1900, after many vicissitudes, the maximum to that date of nearly 76 lakhs was reached; since then there has been a rapid advance, the total value of the notes in circulation on the 31st March 1906 being a crore and 84·67 lakhs and the number of separate notes 468,207, or 50,000 more than on the same day twelve months before. Ten-rupee notes constituted over 63 per cent. of the total number in circulation, followed by notes for Rs. 100 representing 20 per cent. There was a rise in the number of five-rupee notes but they form a very small fraction of the total circulation and are still unpopular.

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CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1905.

Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1905.

Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1905-06.

Eleventh issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1905-06, Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

Number of births and deaths.

177. No addition was made to the areas in which the registration of births and deaths was in force and the only change in system was the transfer of the control of the work to Civil Surgeons. In Lower Burma 191,226 births were registered—an increase of 11,198 over the total for 1904—representing an annual birth-rate of 34·34 *per mille* as contrasted with the mean of 33·46 for the preceding five years. Out of every 206 children born, 106 were males. In Rangoon the reported birth-rate, 17·19, was barely half the average for the Lower Province, while in Akyab it was even lower. These marked variations from the normal probably indicate defective registration, but in Rangoon a comparatively low birth-rate is inevitable in view of the immense numerical superiority of the male population, which constituted nearly 71 per cent. of the whole at the Census of 1901. The low birth-rate (17·49) in the small town of Kyaukpyu, where the accuracy of the returns is not impugned, can only be attributed to the decline of fertility characteristic of populations severely affected with malaria. Deaths registered in Lower Burma numbered 138,850, or 24·93 for each thousand of the population, and fell short of the births by 52,376; as compared with 1904, there was an increase of 15,789 or 2·57 *per mille*. Deaths of children below one year of age contributed 37,595 to the total and 3,120 to the increase over the figures for the previous year. Infantile mortality contributed nearly one-fourth of the whole mortality in the Lower Province, and this high proportion was higher still in the larger towns. In Upper Burma deaths were registered in Mandalay District and in all the districts of the three remaining divisions except the Upper Chindwin; registration of births was, however, confined to the 12 municipal towns in the 11 districts in which death registration was in force. The number of births recorded, 10,351 or 34·91 *per mille*, was much the same as in 1904, but the proportion of males to females, 105 to 100, was rather less. In the death-rate there was a marked rise from 18·69 to 22·46, the number of deaths, 65,541, exceeding the total for the previous year by close on 10,000. The increase was most marked in the case of infant mortality which contributed a fourth of the total with a large rise from 11,946 to 16,427. For the province as a whole, the death-rate rose from 21·07 to 24·09 for every thousand of the population and, as this rise was not due to the increased prevalence of any single disease or confined to a few districts, it indicates that the year was generally unhealthy and, to some extent, that the transfer of the duty of supervising the collection of statistics to the Civil Surgeons has effected some improvement in their accuracy. No connection is anywhere traceable between the price of food-grains and the birth and death-rates.

Causes of death.

178. In February 1905, the immunity from plague previously enjoyed by the Province ceased with the discovery of indigenous cases in Rangoon. For a time the disease was confined, so far as known, to the capital city, where vigorous efforts were made to stay its progress. These efforts unhappily proved unavailing and gradually it spread to the rest of the Province, appearing first in the districts on the main lines of communications, especially in those traversed by the railway. In all 4,132 cases were reported and 3,692 deaths; for two-thirds of each total

the City of Rangoon was responsible and the remaining third was contributed by 14 districts in Lower Burma and five in Upper Burma. Outside Rangoon the Meiktila District and the towns of Bassein, Pyinmana and Toungoo returned the most cases. Much attention was given to the destruction of rats and in all 618,010 were killed at a cost of Rs. 27,802. No less than 3·65 lakhs were spent in combating the disease and all but Rs. 60,000 of this amount came out of Local Funds. As in former years the deaths attributed to fever (69,683) far outnumbered the total assigned to any single specified disease, but they were 5,873 fewer than in 1904. A large proportion of these deaths may be attributed to malarial fever, which was combated by mosquito brigades in Myitkyina, Kyaukpyu and Akyab with some slight measure of success, if a decline in the number of cases can be attributed to their efforts, and throughout the Province by the sale of quinine. Vaccinators were again successful in disposing of a larger number of quinine powders than in the previous year; they distributed 3,274 packets out of a total number of 6,996. Deaths from cholera and small-pox were much more numerous than in 1904, when the number recorded was considerably below the normal. Cholera carried off 5,347 people, or 2·62 per cent. of the total number of deaths, while small-pox was fatal in 6,161 cases as compared with 1,809 in the preceding year and slightly exceeded one *per mille* of the population in Lower Burma, where it was most prevalent in Rangoon and in the districts of Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, Pyapôn and Henzada. Dysentery and diarrhœa claimed more victims than in 1904; the death-rate from these illnesses was especially high in Thayetmyo, where it is attributed, in the case of the town as well as the jail population, to the condition of the drinking water drawn from the Irrawaddy River.

Emigration and Immigration.

179. The extremely low rates prevailing during the year for passengers between Rangoon and Indian ports, consequent on the competition of rival Steamship Companies, and in some measure the unfavourable harvest in many parts of India gave a considerable impetus to immigration to Burma. In all 239,000 immigrants landed in Burma, and although a great many of the natives of India in the country took advantage of the low steamer fares to revisit their old homes in India, the nett increase to the population from immigration during the year was nearly 63,000 persons. There was no emigration from the Province in the true sense of the word.

Medical Relief.

180. A nett addition of two hospitals and two dispensaries during 1905 brought the provincial totals up to 161 hospitals, treating both in and out-patients, and 47 dispensaries for the relief of out-patients only. Of the grand total of 208 institutions, 63 were special hospitals, maintained mainly for the treatment of patients belonging to the police force or employed on the railways; of the remainder, 78 were maintained by Local Funds, 53 from Provincial Revenues and 14, of which 10 received aid from Provincial or Local Funds, by private subscription or guarantee. There was a total attendance of 71,047 in-patients, as compared with 66,641 in 1904, while the number of out-patients rose by 18,497 to 141,000 in excess of a million; the latter increase was however due entirely to the cases treated by the medical subordinates employed in connection with the construction work on the Pegu-Moulmein Railway. There was actually a small decline in the numbers treated at the ordinary hospitals and dispensaries which is partly attributed to the fact that fear of detention on suspicion of plague deterred many patients with feverish symptoms from their usual attendance. Calculated on the census figures of 1901, the number of patients to whom medical or surgical aid was rendered represented 115 out of every thousand of the population. In the case of Burmans, the proportion was barely half this average, while for every thousand Hindus and every thousand Mahomedans respectively there were no fewer than 646 and 434 entries in the Registers of Patients treated, the great majority of the patients of all races being men. The mortality among

Attendance at Hospitals and Dispensaries.

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in-patients, 6·2 per cent., was higher than in 1904 in consequence of the greater prevalence of cholera and small-pox. As in former years, malarial fever, worms and ulcers were the most common complaints; in the towns of Rangoon and Mandalay cases of venereal disease were numerous, while the great prevalence of goitre among the hill-tribes in Upper Burma was attested by the fact that no fewer than 5,911 cases were treated, the Upper Chindwin District alone accounting for nearly 1,500 of these, with Bhamo not far behind with almost 1,300. Surgical operations, exclusive of 1,950 performed in private, Railway and Police Hospitals, numbered 24,536, or slightly more than in 1904, and there was a gratifying decrease in the death-rate from ·51 to ·36 per cent. Of the total, no fewer than 3,500 stand to the credit of the small staff of the Rangoon General Hospital. Excluding the heavy outlay on the construction of the new Rangoon General Hospital the total expenditure under all heads during the year amounted to over 8¾ lakhs, or almost Rs. 20,000 more than in 1904; the proportion contributed by Provincial Revenues again rose, though slightly, to 48·79 per cent. while Local Funds supplied 43·61.

Miscellaneous.

181. The Mandalay and Rangoon Leper Asylums continued to do excellent work during the year, but the Dufferin Maternity Hospital in Rangoon showed a considerable further decrease in the number of patients, indoor and outdoor. Reference has already been made in paragraph 174 above to the generous gift by a private donor of Rs. 30,000 for the erection of opthalmic wards in the Mandalay Hospital. The staff of Hospital Assistants was 28 short of its sanctioned number of 314 during the year and it was found necessary to borrow men from Indian provinces to make good the deficiency and to stop all leave otherwise than on medical certificate.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

182. It is calculated that of the total income, amounting to over 69⅛ lakhs received by the 43 municipalities in the Province during the calendar year 1905, 45 per cent. was spent for the furtherance of sanitation. This proportion, though considerably less than in 1904, when large sums were spent on the Hlawga water-supply scheme for Rangoon, was still above the normal in view of the further expenditure incurred during 1905 on the same work. In the 36 municipalities outside the Pegu Division the outlay on sanitation was only 21·4 per cent. of the income. On the other hand the smaller towns which possess funds of their own, although as yet without full municipal status, spent no less than 45 per cent. of their aggregate income of 4¼ lakhs on water-supply, conservancy, drainage and other sanitary works, while less than five per cent. of the 47⅛ lakhs credited to District Cess and District Funds during the year were devoted to these objects. These sums do not include the cost incurred by private persons on the construction of tanks and the digging of wells, undertaken as works of merit, nor do they take into account the value of the work, in the aggregate considerable, done by villagers themselves under the direction of their headmen for the sanitary improvement of their villages.

Water-supply.

183. Mention has been made in paragraph 89 above of the progress achieved during the year in improving the water-supply of the various municipal towns in the Province and in paragraph 148 of the action taken in some of the smaller towns. The effect of a good supply of water on the health of a town is strikingly exemplified in the case of Prome, where the average death-rate for the past five years has been 23·37 as compared with 39·4 during the five years previous to 1885, when the water-supply scheme was first brought into effect. In Moulmein, which for the first time enjoyed the benefit of a good and abundant supply of water, it is too early yet to judge of the effect on the health of the town and much of the benefit accruing from it is discounted by the fact that the town is still full of insanitary wells which have not yet been closed up.

Conservancy and drainage.

184. The achievements during the year towards the improvement of conservancy and drainage have already received notice in paragraph 89 above. Rangoon alone possesses a system of drainage in any measure approaching the modern requirements of a large town; that system is now inadequate for the population using it and a special engineer was employed throughout 1905 in devising measures for its improvement and extension.

Sanitary Board.

185. The Provincial Sanitary Board held two meetings during the year. Rules were framed defining its functions and prescribing its duties.

Vaccination.

186. The expenditure from all sources on vaccination during the 12 months prior to the 1st April 1906 amounted to Rs. 1,14,464, or Rs. 14,000 more than in the preceding year. It was met to the extent of 43·18 and 37·73 per cent. respectively by Local Funds and Provincial Revenues and the balance, with the exception of 2·71 per cent. contributed by Native States, was paid by municipalities. The staff employed consisted of 241 vaccinators—8 more than in 1904-05—supervised by 16 Native Superintendents and they performed 489,297 operations, or an average of 1,956 each, as compared with 413,407 and 1,706 in that year, with a percentage of success, where the results were known, of 90·8 against 84·71 out of the smaller total. Much of the increased energy thus shown was the effect of the small-pox epidemics which characterised the year, 3,975 cases with 1,276 deaths taking place in Rangoon, which contributed almost a third of the 75,890 additional operations of the year. For the same reason the number of re-vaccinations rose largely from 26,271 to 54,297 with 53·25 per cent. of successful cases as compared with 47·6, and there was again a noticeable rise of nearly 2,000 to 17,507 in the number of vaccinations performed by medical subordinates in charge of dispensaries, with a percentage of success of 90·44 in primary cases. The Native Superintendents verified 21·62 per cent. of the total number of primary vaccinations and found 87·22 per cent. to be successful; these figures are a considerable improvement on those of 1904-05 when only 81 per cent. of the smaller proportion (19·35 per cent.) of primary operations verified were reported to have taken effect. Except in Rangoon, where the Municipality maintained its own depôt, all the vaccine lymph used in the Province was obtained from the Government depôt at Meiktila, where, in contrast to former years, there was no break in the continuity of the supply. The average cost of each successful operation was four annas and nine pies, five pies less than in the previous year, but two pies more than in 1903-04. Sanction was accorded during the year to an increase in the number of Superintendents from 16 to 31, arranged in three grades with pay of Rs. 50, Rs. 75 and Rs. 100, and to the grant of an allowance to ten probationers annually during the period of training.

CHAPTER VII.
INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1905-06.

Report on the Insein Reformatory School for 1905.

Eleventh issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics for British India for 1905-06 and preceding years, Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), and XII (The Press).

(*See* paragraphs 427 to 460 of the Report for the year 1901-02.)

Education.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

187. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year that ended on the 31st March 1906 was 20,996, attended by 385,214 pupils, of whom 57,905 were girls. Private institutions rose by 315 to a grand total of 15,064, all devoted to elementary instruction, and the attendance of pupils to 170,932, or an average of 11·3 per school. Public colleges and schools numbered 5,932, an advance over the previous year of 172, or 3 per cent., while the pupils in attendance rose by 4 per cent. or 8,073 to 214,282 giving an average of 36 for each institution. The total direct expenditure on instruction was 19·85 lakhs as compared with 17½ in 1904-05, while indirect charges, including the cost of buildings and the inspecting staff, rose largely from 9·28 lakhs to 12·92; the combined sum of 32¾ lakhs was nearly six lakhs more than in the previous year. Of the additional expenditure 2⅔ lakhs were borne by Provincial Funds and half a lakh by Local Funds, while fees rose by Rs. 1,10,000 to 8⅓ lakhs and the expenditure of 4¼ lakhs, from private sources, mainly on new buildings, was 1¾ lakhs in excess of the outlay during the previous year. The total charge on Provincial Funds was 14·15 lakhs, or 43·19 per cent. of the whole, practically the same proportion as in 1904-05; the greater part of the increase was met out of the additional grant of two lakhs made by the Imperial Government for the furtherance of Primary Education and if the items of expenditure (roughly 4½ lakhs) debitable to that grant and to the previous grant of 4 lakhs be excluded, the nett increased cost to Provincial resources was only about Rs. 39,000. Of the 4-lakh grant all but Rs. 21,000 was spent, 1½ lakhs on Secondary Schools, 1 lakh on Primary Schools, Rs. 21,000 on Normal Schools, Rs. 40,000 on building and equipment grants, and the balance on the appointment of 12 additional Deputy Inspectors, 11 Sub-Inspectors and the necessary clerical establishments and increased pay and travelling allowances for the existing Deputy Inspectors. Of the 2-lakh grant Rs. 47,000 were utilized in advances of Rs. 500 each to aid in the starting of new Vernacular Schools, 76 of which commenced work during the year, and Rs. 21,000 on the equipment and cost of staff of Primary Schools, while a lakh was transferred to the Public Works Department for the building of such schools.

Primary Education.

188. Practically a fourth of the total number of schools in the Province consisted of Public Primary Schools, teaching up to the Fourth Standard inclusive. These increased by 114 during the year, and all with the exception of 12 were under private management, supported by grants from Provincial or Local Funds. Of 5,149 schools with 164,185 pupils, an average of nearly 32 for each school, 440 with 14,576 pupils, were schools for girls, but this small total represents little more than a third of the total number of girls (42,816 as compared with 40,825 in 1904-05) under instruction in all Primary Schools. Small as was the number of public schools, it was double the previous year's total. Two new Municipal Primary Schools were added to the one already in existence, and three Primary Schools for boys, two to serve as model schools and one as a practising school, were opened by Government, thereby bringing the total number of such schools to 5. In addition three new model girls' schools were started. The increase in the number

of private aided institutions was mainly the result of the advances of fixed grants made by Government for this end, as mentioned above. All the new schools were boys' schools, girls' schools showing a decline of eight. Less than a tenth of the total number of pupils had passed beyond the Lower Primary stage, but 2,390, of whom 511 were girls, were learning English. The total outlay on Primary Schools was 5·61 lakhs or Rs. 43,000 more than in 1904-05 and was met to the extent of 2·29 lakhs from Provincial Funds, 2·11 from District Cess Funds and the balance from Municipal Revenues, fees and private subscriptions; fees contributed only Rs. 35,513 or rather less than in the previous year.

Secondary Education.

189. An addition of 70 schools brought the total number of Secondary Schools in the Province up to 506, of which 24 were Anglo-Vernacular High Schools, 6 Vernacular High Schools, 79 Anglo-Vernacular Middle Schools, and the remainder Vernacular Middle Schools. The increase during the year was in the lower grade Vernacular Schools, Anglo-Vernacular Middle Schools rising by 5 only. The total number of pupils on the 31st March was 47,254, of whom 9,692 were girls, the average per school being 93·4. Sixty-three of the 506 schools, including 7 High Schools, were primarily schools for girls, but the majority of girls, as in the case of Primary Schools, received their education along with boys in boys' schools. Pupils learning English numbered 20,853, and of these 2,916 were girls; in the previous year, although the total number of pupils in Secondary Schools was less by 4,393, English was taught to 19,795. Thirteen schools, all for boys, were maintained by Government, as compared with 7 in 1904-05, but only 3 of the 6 additional schools were new institutions; 2 were Primary Schools raised in grade and the sixth, the High School at Prome, was formerly a private institution. Seventeen schools, a rise of one, were kept up by Municipal Funds and all the rest including all the girls' schools were privately managed. Although the High Schools remained unchanged, there was a falling off in attendance, a decrease of 130 boys outweighing an increase of 68 additional pupils in the High Schools for girls. Results of examinations were unfavourable. For the Calcutta University Matriculation Examination 319 boys entered, but only 60 passed as against 141 out of a smaller number of candidates in the previous year. In the Middle English examination only 1,987 out of 3,538 boy examinees passed, whereas only, 78 out of 397 girls failed. The total expenditure on Secondary Schools rose by Rs. 1,76,608 to 11·89 lakhs, of which 3·1 lakhs were supplied by Provincial Funds, 4·69 out of fees and the balance by Local Funds and Private subscriptions.

Collegiate Education.

190. The Rangoon and the Baptist Colleges were the only institutions which undertook preparation for the examinations of the Calcutta University. The former College was attended by 167 students, an advance of 16 on the total for 1904-05, but only 4 out of 18 candidates for the Degree of B.A. were successful, one taking the 4th place on the Honours List in English, and only 11, including two girls, out of 68 who sat for the First Arts examination satisfied the examiners; in the previous year there were 35 passes out of 78 entries. Attendance at the Baptist College again declined and although eight of the 21 students took the First Arts examination, only two satisfied the examiners. Three Law classes were held at an outlay of Rs. 6,000 during the year and were attended by 19 students, but none of them attempted to take the examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Law. Expenditure on the Colleges amounted to nearly Rs. 70,000, or slightly more than in 1904-05, and was met to the extent of nearly a half from Government Funds, fees and private contributions supplying the balance. The average cost per student, Rs. 334, was considerably higher than in any of the three Presidency Towns of India.

Technical Education.

191. Survey schools have already been dealt with in paragraph 40 above. They are primarily designed to provide a supply of surveyors for the Land Records Department and the course of teaching is directed to this end. Similarly the Forest School at Tharrawaddy is intended to train the subordinates of the

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

Forest Department and the Engineering School at Insein prepares pupils for the various branches of the Public Works Department. The work of erecting the new buildings required in connection with the extension of the last named school was commenced during the year and the pupils, 54 in number as compared with 39 in the previous year, were taught in accordance with the scheme prepared for the re-organised school. Out of 47 candidates 39 passed the examination in Engineering during the year. Besides the foregoing schools and the class for apprentices at the Railway workshops, Insein, there were three technical schools under private management which attracted 135 pupils as compared with 75 in 1904-05. Many of the ordinary schools made provision for technical teaching; in 60 schools drawing was taught and 3,117 pupils passed in it. A Karen Anglo-Vernacular School at Toungoo secured very favourable results in printing, book-binding and carpentry, and in several schools instruction was given in weaving and lace-making.

Training Schools.

192. The number of Normal Schools for the training of teachers remained unchanged; in the five institutions maintained by Government there were 366 pupils on the rolls, or 45 more than in 1904-05, while in the 7 schools under private management there were only 252 or 18 fewer; of the total number 181 were girls. In the training-school examination for masters, 182 out of 211 passed, 96 in the Upper grade, while 38 out of 44 candidates in the test for mistresses satisfied the examiners. The total expenditure on training-schools amounted to Rs. 93,843, or over Rs. 8,000 more than in 1904-05, and was practically all provided by Provincial Funds.

European education.

193. The Code for Schools providing education for Europeans and Eurasians was brought into force during the year and accepted by 16 of the 18 aided institutions classed in the previous year as European secondary schools. The number of European and Eurasian pupils in all schools rose by 222 to 3,559 and about two-thirds of these attended the European Schools, while the proportion of non-Europeans in such schools fell by over one-half. The attendance at Primary Schools, only 158, was slightly larger than in 1904-05, but the number of Arts students fell from 21 to 16. The increase during the year was entirely due to the Secondary Schools and to the girl-pupils; the number of boys was stationary, an increased attendance at the High Schools being counterbalanced by a decrease in the Middle Schools. Only 37 boys attended the Normal Schools as against 66 in the previous year. In the higher examinations there were fewer successes; no European or Eurasian obtained the B.A. degree and only five passed the First Arts examination and 19, of whom 9 were girls, the Matriculation; in the schools tests, however, results were more satisfactory. The arrangements for the reconstitution of the Government School at Maymyo were completed during the year; a separate School was started for Europeans and attracted 75 pupils, including 35 boarders, before the close of March.

Education of Special Classes.

194. There was only a slight increase in the total number of Mahomedans under instruction, but a distinct gain is indicated by the fact that the more advanced course obtainable at the public schools was taken by 6,680 pupils, or 404 more than in 1904-05, while the attendance at elementary private schools, where instruction is practically confined to the teaching of the Koran, decreased by 306 to 4,625. Purely Mahomedan schools are few; only two of them are Anglo-Vernacular and neither teaches beyond the Primary stage. Only six Mahomedans attended the Arts Colleges, but one of them obtained the degree of B.A. Schools for Karens were both more numerous and better attended; one of their pupils passed the Matriculation examination and in the Middle School and Upper Primary examinations for Anglo-Vernacular schools, Karen girls to the number of 28 and 111 respectively were successful. Among the other minor races in the province education was less advanced and there were few passes beyond the middle stage. Shan private schools increased largely during the year from 85 to 178 and the number of pupils rose from 1,039 to 2,325, the result of greater attention paid to the education of this race. Talaing schools, although next in

number to Karen schools, showed very little advance either in numbers or attendance, while in both respects there was a distinct decline in the case of Taungthu institutions. Two of the four private schools for Chinese disappeared, but the number of Chinese pupils at school increased largely. The Anglo-Vernacular school for the sons of Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi was inspected for the first time by an Inspector of Schools; a Fifth Standard class was started during the year and with a view to increased efficiency, sanction was accorded to the appointment of an English University graduate as its Headmaster on a suitable salary. CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

195. Over the greater part of the province the year was one of continued progress in female education. The total number of girls at schools of all kinds was 57,905, or 3,118 more than in 1904-05, while girl-pupils in public institutions rose by 3,391 to 53,050. The great majority of girls were still in the elementary stage, but the increase of 1,436 to a total of 9,692 in Secondary Schools is a more notable feature of the year's progress than the large rise in the total number under instruction. The improvement was not confined to Burmese girls; in all departments girl=Natives of India were more numerous than in the previous year and there were no fewer than 298 Mahomedan girls under instruction. The management of female education was almost entirely in the hands of aided bodies or individuals, but three new Primary Schools for girls, as mentioned above, were opened by Government during the year, bringing the total number up to four. Separate schools for girls are not essential for the spread of female education in the Province; the larger proportion of girls under instruction attended boys' schools, and a mere statement of the cost of girls' schools would not convey an accurate presentation of the actual expenditure on female education. In the year's literary tests girls did well, no fewer than 38 out of 42 passing the Eighth Standard examination, while 12 out of 31 satisfied the Matriculation examiners at Calcutta University. Female Education.

196. An excess of two in the number of admissions (19) over releases (17) raised the total number of boys under detention in the Insein Reformatory School on the 31st December 1905 to 78, of whom no fewer than 45 were illiterate on admission. Fifty-four out of 64 boys put through a literary examination passed in various standards below the sixth and all 38 boys presented for examination passed in technical work. Discipline was good; 47 boys required no correction and the remainder shared 66 punishments, chiefly for quarrelling. Forty-four of the boys were employed on carpentry, cane and tin-work and their earnings showed a net profit of Rs. 653; 26 boys worked the garden and grew all the vegetables required for the use of the school. The nett expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,525, or an average of Rs. 165 for each boy. Admissions to hospital were fewer, but one boy died of paralysis, from which he was suffering on admission. Insein Reformatory School.

Literature and the Press.

197. Publications registered under Act XXV of 1867 during the calendar year 1905 numbered 140, or 6 fewer than in 1904. Of these 11 were educational. Works on religion as usual far outnumbered those on any other subject, but the total, 67, was less by 19 than in the previous year. Treatises on language mostly dealing with Pâli grammar numbered 13, as in 1904; while there were 7 Burmese and 2 Tamil novels and the same number of books on science or pseudo-science, mostly astrology and alchemy. There were three publications under Law, including the "Burma Law Journal," while "A Book on Exorcism with prescriptions" was issued with the promise of a second part to follow. Forty-three of the publications were written in Burmese and that language shared with Pâli 63 others while ten were written in Pâli only. Publications registered.

198. Seventy-two printing presses were at work in the Province during the year 1905-06 and they published 37 newspapers and 46 periodicals. Of the newspapers, 22 were published in English and nine in Burmese; seven appeared Presses, Newspapers and Periodicals.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

daily, four in English, two in Burmese and one in Chinese, all save one, an English paper, in Rangoon. One Burmese and three English papers issued thrice and five in each language and one in Gujerati twice a week, while there were one Tamil and five English weeklies. Three newspapers were published in Sgau-Karen, one appearing monthly and the others fortnightly, and one Burmese and five English papers issued only once a month. No fewer than ten newspapers mostly of a religious or educational character were published by the American Baptist Mission Press in Rangoon. Among the periodicals the majority were Government Reports and religious publications.

(See paragraphs 487 to 489 of the Report for 1901-02 and paragraph 282 of the Report for 1904-05.)

Arts and Sciences.

199. The Annual Provincial Art Competition was held in January 1906, when competition in the Handicrafts section was confined to workmen from Rangoon, Pegu and Moulmein. The bronze statuettes from Pegu were very good and some of the smaller pieces of silver work from Rangoon were well up to the average high standard. There was a distinct advance in carved teak-brackets, which were very well finished, but in the other classes the exhibits were not particularly good. The display of pictures iand photographs was very disappointing, in strong contrast to the exhibition of 1904-05, when they were included for the first time.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE—

Report on Archæological Work in Burma for the year 1905-06.

200. The most important feature of the archæological work of the year was the successful accomplishment of the greater part of the repair and restoration of the Mandalay Palace spire, which rises 198 feet over the Audience Hall. The expenditure on that one item absorbed Rs. 41,592 of the total outlay of Rs. 72,123 on archæological work during the year. At Pagan three buildings of great historical interest, the Kyaukku Temple erected in 1188 A.D., the Nagayôn Pagoda built in 1064 and the Sulamani Pagoda founded in 1183, were secured against further damage from the weather at a cost of about Rs. 16,000. Eight buildings were added to the list of structures to be maintained at the public cost, raising the total number to 45, and the preparation by District Officers of revised lists of buildings thought worthy of preservation was in progress throughout the year. Further advance was made with the architectural survey of the Palace buildings at Mandalay and the collection of materials for an illustrated article on Burmese Epigraphy for incorporation in the *Journal of Indian Archæology* was completed. A Monograph on Stone-Carving, based on an examination of the pagodas and other ancient buildings at Pagan, was written and considerable work was done in deciphering inscriptions and in taking rubbings of 468 inscriptions, collected about 100 years ago by the Burmese King Bodawpaya and stored at Amarapura. One hundred and three new photographs of buildings of archæological interest were taken during the year and excavation was carried on at Pagan and at the old-time capital of Peikthano in the Magwe District, where some teeth, urns and calcined bones alone rewarded the search. The total cost of the archæological survey, exclusive of Rs. 72,123 expended on restoration and repairs, was Rs. 20,221.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(*See* paragraphs 492 and 493 of the Report for the year 1901-02.)

Ecclesiastical.

201. The Ecclesiastical record of the year was uneventful. A house was built for the Chaplain at Maymyo and plans for a new Church were under consideration.

Stationery.

202. As in past years the bulk of paper required for official purposes was supplied from Indian Mills through the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta, at a total cost of a little above three lakhs, or Rs. 46,475 more than in the previous year. Nearly two-thirds of the total expenditure was on paper used in the Government Printing Presses.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 743, Chief Secy., 12-12-1906—575—B.N.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR

1906–07

RANGOON
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BURMA
1907

LIST OF AGENTS

FOR THE

SALE OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

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THACKER, SPINK & Co., Calcutta.
W. NEWMAN & Co., Calcutta.
THACKER & Co., Bombay.
HIGGINBOTHAM & Co., Madras.
PROPRIETOR, HANTHAWADDY PRESS, Rangoon.
SUPERINTENDENT, AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS, Rangoon.

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HENRY S. KING & Co., 65, Cornhill, E.C., London.
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ON THE CONTINENT:

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MARTINUS NIJHOFF, The Hague, Holland.
RUDOLF HAUPT, HALLE-A-S, Germany.

[The maximum length of the Summary is from 20 to 30 pages, and of Part II 150 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1906-07.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Changes in the Administration.

The Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year of report. Many important improvements in the administration were carried into effect. Further Police Commission reforms were introduced, a new Agricultural Department was formed and the Civil Veterinary Department was re-organised. An officer of the Commission was appointed to be Commissioner of Excise and a separate appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Rangoon Town Lands and Collector for the Rangoon Town District was created. The second Chief Engineer was appointed Joint Secretary to the Local Government.

Frontier affairs.

2. Transfrontier relations were generally satisfactory throughout the length of the border and friendly intercourse was maintained with French and Chinese officials. On the north-eastern frontier, however, peace was disturbed by several armed raids into British territory of a more or less serious nature. On the northern frontier of the Myitkyina District several raids of a serious nature were committed by Kachins from across the N'Maikha. The gravest outrage was a preconcerted attack on the temporary Military Police post at Auche by Kachins from the Sana tract. The attack was easily repulsed. In unadministered territory north of the Arakan Hill Tracts 27 Shandus were massacred by Kôns. Further bloodshed has been averted in the meantime, and an attempt will be made to settle the case in the cold weather of 1907-08.

The Shan States and Karenni.

3. The rainfall in the Southern Shan States was irregular and agricultural conditions were not favourable. The only crops which were moderately successful were potatoes and cotton. The volume of trade increased and crime was satisfactorily dealt with. The principal public work of the year was the completion by the Sawbwa of Yawnghwe of the navigable canal from the Yawnghwe Lake to Mawlihsat on the proposed railway line. Further progress was made in locating the line referred to. Some delays have occurred, but it is anticipated that the

present season's work will result in a scheme which can be pushed through to completion within the next few years. The death of Sawlawi, Sawbwa of Gantarawadi, which occurred immediately after the close of the year of report, was a severe loss to the State. The internal condition of the Northern Shan States was tranquil and the people were prosperous and contented. Notwithstanding cattle disease, agricultural conditions were normal and trade flourished.

The Chin Hills.

4. Apart from some excitement due to fear of disturbances connected with the massacre of Shandus already referred to, the year was uneventful in the Chin Hills. The season was favourable and progress in several directions was steady and gratifying.

Realisation of land revenue.

5. Outstandings of land revenue at the end of the year were nearly a third less than the corresponding figure for 1905-06 on a slightly enhanced demand. Remissions fell from 11 to under 4 lakhs partly owing to the new system of non-assessment of areas on which crops have been destroyed by floods. More coercive processes affecting property were issued and fewer affecting persons. The amount for the realisation of which application was made increased slightly, while there was a more decided rise in the amount realised by means of coercive processes.

Surveys.

6. No. 7 party of the Survey of India surveyed in detail 689 square miles in Pakôkku, Thayetmyo and Pyapôn Districts besides carrying out traverse work. Original surveys by provincial parties were in progress in Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Tharrawaddy. Progress was made in the large-scale surveys of important towns and a good deal of special fishery survey work was done. Revision surveys by provincial agency were carried out in several districts.

Settlements.

7. As in 1905-06, six settlement parties were at work during the year, three in Upper Burma and three in Lower Burma. The original settlement of Mergui District was completed and progress was made with original settlement work in Pakôkku and the Lower Chindwin Districts. A summary settlement was brought to a close in Sandoway District. Revision settlement was completed in Ma-ubin and Myaungmya Districts and in a portion of Pyapôn and also on the Mandalay Canal area and nearly completed in the Minbu District. The expenditure incurred during the year on settlement operations amounted to 3·62 lakhs, rather more than the figure of 1905-06, while the enhancement in the land revenue demand consequent on orders passed during the year reached 7·09 lakhs as compared with only 2·82 lakhs in the previous year.

Land Records.

8. A considerable addition was made to the area under supplementary survey and to the area assessed by the Land Records Department owing mainly to the inclusion of Shwebo District in the returns on completion of settlement. For the same reason the cost of the department rose by about 9 per cent. There was a further small decline in the attendance at Government Survey schools.

Transfers of land.

9. The area of land sold declined slightly and the area of land mortgaged largely. On the other hand, the area redeemed and that on mortgage at the end of the year showed substantial rises. These variations are attributed to the general rise in the value of land.

10. The area granted or leased for cultivation fell again owing to the continued suspension of the issue of pottas in the Pegu Division. The question of extending suspension to other divisions was under consideration. The area granted free for religious and public purposes was less than in the previous year. Disposal of waste lands.

11. The percentage of the occupied area held by agriculturists continued to diminish, but the rate of decline appears to have slackened owing possibly to recent action taken by Government with a view to discourage alienation to non-agriculturists. The area let to tenants increased, and there was a very notable rise in the aggregate rent of land, ascribed to enhanced prices for paddy, increase of population and decrease of culturable waste. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. Five Bills were passed by the Burma Legislative Council. The Lower Burma Land and Revenue Law Amendment Act, 1907, empowers the Local Government to regulate the extract of minor mineral products and the transport of minerals. The Act also renders it compulsory on parties to an alientation of land to report the transaction. The Rangoon Water-works Act Amendment Act, 1907, confers on the Rangoon Municipal Committee the power, in certain cases, to execute necessary repairs to water-supply connections at the cost of the owner. The Burma Towns Act, 1907, consolidates the law relating to the administration of towns in Upper and Lower Burma and introduces certain minor improvements. The Rangoon Police Act Amendment Act, 1907, confers powers under certain Acts on the Commissioner of Police or Superintendents and on Police officers generally in Rangoon. The Act also enhances the penalty for begging. The Burma Highway Act, 1907, confers powers on District officers for preventing the destruction of road-surfaces by unsuitable vehicles and generally for regulating road traffic. Three other Bills, namely, a Village Bill, a Defile Traffic Bill and a Courts Act Amending Bill were introduced, but not passed during the year. The Burma Gambling Act, 1899, was extended to the Myelat in the Southern Shan States. Legislation.

13. A number of important reforms affecting both the district police and the Rangoon force were carried out during the year in consequence of the orders passed on the report of the Police Commission, and the expenditure underwent a corresponding expansion. Difficulty is still reported in obtaining recruits in several districts, and the force actually entertained was below strength by no less than 46 officers and 1,011 men. A Provincial Police Training School for officers of and above the rank of Sub-Inspector was opened in April 1906. During the year much was done for the housing of the Police. In accordance with the orders of Government the construction of temporary police cottages and barracks has been entirely discontinued. True cases of cognizable crime of all classes exhibit a small decrease of a little over 1 per cent. as compared with the figures for 1905. Cases of hurt and grievous hurt were appreciably less common, but dacoities increased by 32 and robberies by 15. The increase in cattle and ordinary thefts is an unsatisfactory feature of the year's record. The year of report showed a marked rise in violent crimes, the increase under all classes totalling 102 cases. Taking all classes of violent crimes, and excluding the 13 cases appertaining to the Railway Police, Lower Burma districts reported 719 cases and Upper Burma districts 201. The most unsatisfactory feature in Police.

connection with violent crime was the small proportion of stolen property recovered. The percentage of convictions obtained by the police showed some improvement on the figure of 1905. The beat patrol system has been made more elastic and revision has been on the lines of increasing the number of visits to villages with bad reputations and to those containing released criminals, and reducing the number of visits to unimportant and non-criminal villages.

Criminal Justice.

14. Twenty-two Judges and Magistrates and three Benches were added to the staff employed in the administration of criminal justice, most of the additional officers being absorbed in Lower Burma. The number of offences reported during the year 1906 was considerably below the figure of the previous year. The improvement was mainly due to a falling off in the number of petty offences in Rangoon and was confined to Lower Burma, there being a normal rise of 415 cases in Upper Burma. The percentage of convictions was practically the same in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma, while the average duration of each case remained unchanged in Upper Burma at 9 days and rose from 11 to 12 days in Lower Burma. Fines were less numerous owing mainly to the smaller number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon. Death sentences numbered 87 against 80, and sentences of transportation and of rigorous imprisonment were more numerous. An unsatisfactory feature of the reports is the proportionate increase, especially noticeable in Lower Burma, in sentences of simple imprisonment and imprisonment for short periods and in sentences of whipping of ten stripes or less. The total number of persons whose cases were dealt with in revision increased largely, the expansion being shared by Upper and Lower Burma.

Prisons.

15. The closing of the District Jail at Pakôkku, the opening of a new jail for 100 prisoners at Mogôk and the addition of 12 cells to the Akyab Prison resulted in a small increase of jail accommodation in the Province. On the other hand, the daily average population also increased, the available accommodation is little in excess of existing requirements and no considerable reduction is possible. For this reason the proposal to close the Rangoon Jail has been postponed. The Meiktila Jail was set apart for the exclusive confinement of juvenile offenders. The number of prisoners received into jails during the year showed a substantial increase over the total of the previous year under all classes. In spite of the rise in the daily average number of convicts the number of prison offences declined. There were twelve escapes altogether, six from inside the jail and six from outside. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased by about a lakh and there was a corresponding rise in the net cost per head of population. The health of the prison population showed a decided improvement during the year under review and the hospital statistics are the best recorded during the past fifteen years.

Civil Justice.

16. During the year 1906 four Civil Judges were added to the staff and proposals have been laid before the Government of India for the appointment of another Divisional and Sessions Judge. The aggregate receipts of all Courts, Civil, Criminal and Revenue, amounted to Rs. 28,60,436 and the aggregate charges to Rs. 45,12,073. Separate figures are no longer furnished for each class

of Courts. There was a normal increase in the number of suits instituted in Lower Burma, and in Upper Burma a more noticeable expansion of litigation and the aggregate value of suits showed a very substantial increase from 181 to 225 lakhs. The number of regular civil suits decided during 1906 showed a noticeable increase. To relieve congestion on the original side of the Chief Court an Additional Judge was sanctioned for six months, and proposals for the constitution of a City Court are under consideration.

Registration.

17. Proposals for the extension to Upper Burma of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, were not accepted by the Local Government, and revised draft rules have been framed under section 8 of the Regulation, which are designed to render the working of Registration offices in Upper Burma independent of the Indian Registration Act and of the rules made thereunder. The total number of documents compulsorily registered in Lower Burma and their aggregate value rose approximately by 12 and 17 per cent. respectively. The number of sales affecting immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 or upwards increased by nearly 21 per cent. the value rising correspondingly by a little over 23 per cent. A large proportion of this expansion was contributed by Rangoon, where a number of unusually important transactions were registered. The increase in the volume of registration transactions is mainly attributed to the extension of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the provisions of which have gradually become known.

Municipal Administration.

18. The number of municipalities in the Province was raised to 44 by the grant of full municipal status to the notified area of Wakèma in the Irrawaddy Division. Assessments on Government, Railway and Port Trust property within Rangoon Municipal limits were revised and largely enhanced, and the total demand during the year on account of Municipal taxes showed a substantial expansion in consequence. The rates of the general Municipal tax and of the water and scavenging taxes were raised and expenditure was kept down as low as was compatible with efficiency. Progress is being made by the Electric Tramway and Supply Company in preparation for lighting the streets by electricity, and it is expected that a start will be made in this direction at the close of 1907 or early in 1908. The Hlawga water-works were completed and taken over from Government on the 1st July 1906. The works connected with the extension and improvement of the sewerage system were started and over two lakhs were spent on the project. Towards the close of the year Government made a contribution of one lakh of rupees towards plague expenditure and a grant of Rs. 58,719 towards the outlay incurred on account of the Hlawga water-works.

In the remaining 43 Municipalities the incidence of taxation rose slightly owing to revision of assessments and levy of fresh imposts. Improvements in water-supply, drainage and conservancy are matters of urgent importance in almost every town in the Province, but the progress attained in carrying out the various schemes is not so rapid as might be desired. Some work was done on the Akyab water-works, for which a loan of three lakhs was taken up. A tube well is being constructed at Gyobingauk, but three wells constructed at Kyaiklat have all proved failures. The latest Municipal water-supply scheme at Mandalay was not accepted by the Sanitary Board, and fresh projects are being prepared. Smaller schemes were in progress or under consideration for various towns, and

several minor drainage and conservancy schemes were in train. The prevalence of plague in many towns resulted in heavy work for Municipal officers and increased expenditure.

Military. 19. The expenditure on Military works during the year rose by one-third, and the total was much in excess of the average outlay of recent years. The greater part of the expenditure was incurred on buildings for troops at Maymyo and Mandalay Hill. During the year a new company was added to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the total strength of the six Corps showed a small improvement on the figures of the previous year.

Marine. 20. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust increased satisfactorily owing to a general expansion of trade and also partly because the Trust no longer incurred expenditure on plague. Capital outlay exceeded 58 lakhs and loans amounting to 51 lakhs were taken up. The harbour works were nearly completed and the river training scheme was further threshed out. Shipping figures show a moderate expansion, chiefly in the coasting trade. One wreck and one collision were reported during the year, but no lives were lost.

Agriculture. 21. The creation of a separate Agricultural Department in Burma took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of a Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture, an all-round Agriculturist to be Principal of the Agricultural College to be established at Mandalay, a Chemist and a Botanist. The scheme for the Department contemplates three main agricultural stations: one at Mandalay, one at Hmawbi in the Hanthawaddy District, and one in the dry zone of Upper Burma. The annual returns of agricultural stock show a moderate improvement. The health of cattle was on the whole good during the year and the number of deaths from contagious diseases fell from 111,770 to 40,715. The improvement was common to all three diseases which find a place in the returns, namely, rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax (including other diseases classed as anthrax by the ordinary cultivator). In August 1906 an extensive re-organization of the Subordinate Staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Harvest prices of paddy were abnormally high throughout the Province, in many markets all previous records were surpassed and it is said that in most districts the anticipation of large profits has induced the cultivators to trench on their food-stocks. The inflation of prices was mainly due to depleted stocks in Europe and scarcity in Eastern Bengal. The average price ranged from Re. 1-12 to Rs. 2 per maund, against an approximate normal of Re. 1-8. The prices of wheat were generally much higher than those of the previous year and also exceeded the normal standard. During the period of report a decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies. Their number nearly doubled itself and progress in every direction has been satisfactory. A striking fact is the confidence now displayed by the outside public in these societies. Applications were made by the public to deposit 1½ lakhs of rupees, and a single bank was willing to finance the societies up to Rs. 50,000 in one year. In fact the amount offered by depositors greatly exceeded the requirements of the societies. The special feature in the work of the year has been the establishment of sixteen societies on the Raiffeisen model. The societies on the new model deal with

smaller sums than the Schulze societies and are considered by some authorities to be more suited to the requirements of an agricultural community. The area of cultivation protected from floods by artificial embankments increased slightly. On the other hand the irrigated area showed a more noticeable decline.

Weather and Crops.

22. The rains began favourably for the most part and ended well after a prolonged break, the general result being that the crop was about normal. The cropped area increased by 1·1 per cent. and the outturn of rice from the principal Lower Burma districts was estimated at 5 per cent. below normal. One of the outstanding features of the year was the rapid extension of ground-nut cultivation.

Horticulture.

23. The various experimental gardens in the Province were taken over by the Department of Agriculture, which should be able before long to decide whether they are all worth the time and money expended on them. Arrangements for the distribution of imported seeds were made as usual. With the development of experimental stations, it will be possible to deal more systematically with the problem of introducing exotic plants by means of imported seeds. The remarkable advance within recent years in the cultivation of ground-nuts is one of the greatest successes traceable to seed distribution. The Horticultural Societies at Rangoon and Moulmein continued their work and the former Society has made good progress in laying out its new grounds.

Forests.

24. A moderate addition was made to the total area of reserved forests during the forest year ending the 30th June 1907 and a further large area was taken in hand for settlement. Progress with working-plans was small. A number of forest buildings were erected by the Department as usual and there was a noticeable increase of activity under the head of road construction. Forest fires were much less numerous and no fires of outstanding importance were reported during the year. Much work was done on the Mergui rubber plantation and a good deal of money was spent on it, bringing the total expenditure up to date to Rs. 2,28,514. A favourable report was received on samples of rubber from the plantation submitted for analysis. As the experiment has accomplished its object in showing the possibility of rubber cultivation in Mergui it is now proposed to make arrangements for leasing the plantation. The number of trees girdled increased, but the total quantity of timber of all kinds extracted fell off by over a sixth. The contraction was mainly under the head of unreserved woods and is accounted for in Upper Burma by the disorganization of the timber trade owing to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay, the principal market for this class of timber.

Mines and Quarries.

25. A mining lease covering the extraction of silver, copper, lead and zinc was granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company in respect of an area in Tawngpeng State in the Northern Shan States, and the Burma Development Syndicate obtained a tin-mining lease in Mergui District. The yield of petroleum fell off by about 3½ per cent. owing to restricted production in Pakôkku and Myingyan. More gold was dredged from the Irrawaddy River, but the results so far have hardly realised anticipations. The Ruby Mines Company had a more successful year both as regards the value of stones extracted and as regards royalties collected from native miners.

Manufactures.

26. There was no indication of change in the nature of the staple industries of the Province. The provisions of the Factories Act were extended to 19 new factories including 9 rice mills and 7 saw mills. The number of operatives employed declined somewhat, partly owing to plague and partly because many factory hands took the opportunity of low rates of passage to re-visit their homes in India. The number of children employed nearly doubled, but the total only reached 313, and they are employed only on light work.

Sea-borne Trade.

27. Excluding Government transactions the aggregate sea-borne trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907 once more surpassed all previous records. The total of 48·43 crores exceeded the figure of 1905-06, which itself surpassed all previous years, by no less than 570 lakhs or 13·36 per cent. as compared with an advance of 1·3 per cent. in 1905-06. There was a moderate improvement amounting to 4 per cent. in the foreign trade and a noticeable increase of 25 per cent. in the coasting trade. In the foreign trade exports of Indian produce, chiefly rice, showed contraction, but the deficit under this head was more than counterbalanced by the growth of imports, especially under metals and yarn and textile fabrics. In the coasting trade, imports as well as exports expanded, especially the latter, owing to larger shipments of rice. Of the total value the coasting trade represented 48 per cent. against percentages of 44 and 38 in the two previous years. Eighty-two per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon, Moulmein being second with 8 per cent.

Transfrontier Trade.

28. The inland trade of Burma with foreign countries and with the tributary States and tribes on the external frontiers prospered during the year and showed a rate of expansion not much below that of the sea-borne trade. The total value of the trade amounted to 4 crores 88 lakhs, of which 238 lakhs represented imports and 250 lakhs exports. These totals were 11·5, 1 and 23·7 per cent. respectively in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous year. All countries shared in the increase, Western China to the extent of Rs. 8,13,000, Northern Shan States Rs. 9,40,000, Southern Shan States Rs. 19,04,000, Northern Siam Rs. 9,62,000, Southern Siam Rs. 2,23,000 and Karenni about two lakhs.

Public Works—(i) Road and Buildings.

29. The total outlay on public works from all sources during the year 1906-07 declined by over 4 per cent. owing to a contraction in the expenditure incurred on Provincial Civil Works. The latter item was, however, well above the average for the five years preceding the year of report. The aggregate expenditure on communications fell off appreciably. More was spent on upkeep, but a good deal less on new roads. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on civil buildings fell from nearly 52 to 46½ lakhs. The outlay on new buildings was some 5½ lakhs less than in the previous year. Over 9 lakhs were allotted to Police and a similar amount to Medical buildings, while Law and Justice swallowed up over 6 lakhs, Administration nearly 5½, Telegraphs 2⅓, Jails 1¾, Education 1½ and Post Offices 1 lakh. Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. The Secretariat buildings were completed and improvements were also made in the old General Public Offices in Strand Road. Fair progress was achieved with the works comprised in the project for the new General Hospital at Rangoon and the construction of the new Chief Court was advanced a stage. The extension of the Currency buildings was in hand and a commencement was made

with the new Press building. Outside Rangoon new buildings for the use of the various Departments of the administration were in course of construction all over the country. In the Southern Shan States nearly 3 lakhs of rupees were spent in moving the Kēngtūng post to a healthier site at Loimwe, which is about 5,000 feet above the sea. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme progressed satisfactorily, the outlay amounting to about 6½ lakhs of rupees. The Hlawga water-works were completed and handed over to the Rangoon Municipality on the 1st July 1906.

Public Works—(ii) Railways and Tramways.

30. No new railways or tramways were opened during the year, but a further advance was made towards the completion of three new railway lines in Lower Burma. A number of important surveys were also carried out, including a detailed survey across the Chinese frontier to Têngyūeh and a reconnaissance survey thence to Talifu. Breaches of the railway line due to floods were less frequent and less serious than in the previous year, but there were a comparatively large number of accidents, including five collisions and five derailments. Railway accidents caused the death of 2 and injuries to 25 persons. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 45 lakhs against 24 lakhs in 1905-06. The gross earnings of the year rose by 2¼ lakhs roughly to 160 lakhs, but the net earnings of the line, roughly 59½ lakhs, were more than a lakh behind the figure of the previous year. The Rangoon Steam Tramways had a fairly prosperous year and the electrification of the system was completed. The affairs of the Thatôn-Duyinzeik and Mandalay Tramways were not quite so prosperous. In the case of Mandalay it is said that the existence of plague adversely affected earnings.

Public Works—(iii) Canals.

31. The Pegu-Sittang and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canals remained open and traffic on both waterways increased, the expansion on the shorter canal (Sittang-Kyaikto) being remarkable. Receipts expanded, but a good deal was spent on new works and repairs, and leaving out of account the initial cost of the canals there was a net loss of revenue on the year's working.

Irrigation.

32. The Mandalay and Shwebo Canals were the only major irrigation works which earned revenue during the year, the latter being included for the first time. A larger area was irrigated from the Mandalay Canal, but the results have not entirely come up to expectations. Receipts for both works amounted to 4·05 lakhs and working expenses to Rs. 1,44,000. Surplus revenue on the Mandalay project showed a substantial rise of Rs. 83,000. One and a half lakhs were spent on the construction of the Ye-u Canal and 8½ lakhs on the Mon Canals project. Under the head of Minor Irrigation Works 3·19 lakhs were expended on new works and 1·96 lakhs on repairs.

Gross Revenue.

33. The gross receipts of the Province, including Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds, amounted to 10 crores 26 lakhs of rupees or £6,840,000 sterling. The Imperial share accounted for 335 lakhs, the Provincial share for 472½ lakhs and Local Funds collected the balance of 218 lakhs. Gross expenditure came to 730 lakhs or £4,867,000.

Imperial Revenue and Finance—Land Revenue.

34. The gross land revenue of the Province increased from nearly 383 to 386 lakhs, but the Imperial share underwent a reduction from 120 to 68 lakhs owing to increased contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds in connection

with the new Provincial Settlement. The ordinary land revenue demand exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 3 lakhs, remissions were less by 7 lakhs and outstandings by nearly half a lakh. In consequence collections (239 lakhs) were over 10 lakhs better than the figure of 1905-06. Receipts from capitation-tax rose by about Rs. 70,000 to 50¼ lakhs owing chiefly to assessment of Chittagonian coolies in Akyab District. *Thathameda* produced 46 lakhs, a fall of Rs. 40,000 being due to reduction of rates in consequence of settlement. There was a decline of 2⅓ lakhs in the fishery revenue (26 lakhs) due to the effect on auction prices of two successive bad seasons. Miscellaneous land revenue receipts rose by 1¼ lakhs to nearly 25 lakhs.

Customs.

35. Customs receipts totalling 123 lakhs showed a decrease of over 5 lakhs. The decline was due to the continued export of duty-free rice to Eastern Bengal and to a contraction in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements.

Salt.

36. Salt revenue amounted to nearly 17 lakhs. Import duty on salt and salt-fish fell off by a lakh and Rs. 27,000 respectively, but a rise of Rs. 22,000 under excise duty on local salt reduced the deficit on the total of 1905-06 to Rs. 1,11,216. The increased proportion of local salt consumed in the Province is noticeable. Various questions regarding the duty on local salt and the conditions of local manufacture require settlement, and a special enquiry has been ordered.

Opium and Excise.

37. Imperial receipts from the sale of opium to the Burma Government fell from 6·08 to 5·77 lakhs owing to restriction of consumption. Excise revenue under opium fell by 2¼ lakhs to 46 lakhs. Apart from opium, receipts under excise fell roughly from 40⅓ to 36 lakhs owing to substantial shrinkage under auction fees. In the case both of foreign and of country liquors, *tari* revenue showed a satisfactory expansion. No important change was made in the system of opium administration. In excise matters the chief feature of the year was the introduction of the contract distillery system.

Stamps.

38. Although there was some check in the growth of the stamp revenue compared with previous years, gross receipts under this head rose by nearly 2⅓ lakhs. Figures in respect of receipt stamps being omitted, the gross receipts amounted to 38 lakhs, of which court-fee stamps contributed 62 per cent. The increase in the previous year of over 4 lakhs under judicial stamps was abnormal, and the increase during the year of report, Rs. 1,86,000, is about the average of recent years. The check in the expansion of sales of non-judicial stamps is ascribed to successive unfavourable seasons and consequent arrest of trade.

Assessed taxes.

39. Collections under the Income-Tax Act, 1886, rose from 15·29 to 15·42 lakhs. A notable feature of the year was the rise, roughly from 200 to 300 lakhs, in the value of securities held in the Province, the interest on which is liable to taxation. The expansion is mainly due to investments by the public in Rangoon Municipal and Port Trust loans.

Forests.

40. Forest revenue amounted to 86·39 lakhs, a decrease of about 8 lakhs due to contraction of receipts from timber and other produce extracted by Government agency. Expenditure fell from 38·64 to 36·35 lakhs and surplus revenue from 55·82 to 50·05 lakhs.

41. Imperial expenditure in the Province rose from 53·80 to 57·24 lakhs. Outlay amounting to 14 lakhs was incurred on Military Works representing an increase of 3½ lakhs. There were also small increases under other heads counterbalanced in part by the saving of over a lakh on the Imperial share of Forest charges. **Imperial expenditure.**

42. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads which are shared with Imperial Funds. The total Provincial receipts amounted to 472½ lakhs, showing an increase of 52 lakhs, which was principally accounted for by increases of 55 lakhs and 1·78 lakhs under Land Revenue and Stamps respectively and decreases of 2 lakhs under Excise and 2½ lakhs under Forests. Explanations of these variations have been given in the preceding paragraphs relating to Imperial receipts under the same heads. Fluctuations under heads which are entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds amounted to 453⅓ lakhs of rupees and was less than the total receipts (by nearly 20 lakhs) for the first time during the settlement which expired at the close of the year of report. The total shows an expansion of 6·7 lakhs over the figure of 1905-06. Increased outlay was incurred in all the principal departments except Forests, owing to the growing needs of the administration; but there was a substantial reduction of expenditure on Civil Works from 114 to 105 lakhs. **Provincial revenues.**

43. The revenue of the 37 Incorporated Local Funds in Burma amounted to 36·07 lakhs and the expenditure to 33·69 lakhs. There was an increase under each head, more pronounced in the case of receipts. Of Excluded Local Funds the principal is the Rangoon Port Trust, which is dealt with elsewhere. The income of Cantonment Funds came to Rs. 1,80,825 and expenditure to some Rs. 25,000 less. In both cases the figures represent a decrease of nearly half a lakh on the previous year. Town Fund budgets showed smaller totals on both sides, owing to the conversion of two well-to-do towns into Municipalities. **Local Funds.**

44. The ordinary income of Rangoon Municipality rose from 26·08 to 30·03 lakhs owing to increased receipts from taxation and special grants from Government. Charges amounted to 29·67 as against 28·56 lakhs, the increase being due to the contribution of a share of taxes towards reclamation and to enhanced outlay on plague, education and conservancy. Outstanding loans amounted to nearly 114 lakhs. The remaining 43 Municipalities collected 30¼ lakhs as ordinary income and spent 33 lakhs. Considerable grants were made to various towns by Government. The loan liabilities of minor Municipalities amounted to 24·28 lakhs. Three loans were sanctioned during the year, one of 1 lakh for Moulmein, Rs. 20,000 for Thayetmyo and Rs. 25,000 for Pakôkku. **Municipal Revenues.**

45. There was no alteration during the year in the areas in which registration of births and deaths was in force, but orders were passed for the extension from the 1st January 1907 to non-Municipal towns and rural areas in Upper Burma of the registration of births, hitherto confined, in that section of the Province, to Municipal Towns. The number of births in Lower Burma fell from 191,226 to 180,025. The decrease was more or less general throughout each division except Tenasserim, and no convincing explanation of it is forthcoming. In Lower Burma **Births and Deaths.**

the number of deaths rose from 138,850 to 151,193, affording a death rate of 27·15 against 22·83, the mean for the five previous years, and 22·36 in 1904, previous to the introduction of plague. In Upper Burma, in a population of 2,917,501, the deaths were 76,493, yielding a death rate of 26·22 against 19·84, the mean of the five previous years, and 18·69 in 1904. The year under review must be described as generally unhealthy. An increase occurred in the number of deaths from each of the principal diseases. Plague was the cause of 8,637 deaths during the year as compared with 3,692 deaths in 1905. Several of the more important towns were seriously affected by this disease. Both cholera and small-pox were more prevalent. In the mortality from fever also there was a substantial rise. Proposals are now under preparation for providing a full staff of vaccinators sufficient to serve the entire population in one or two districts in Lower Burma. If these proposals take shape, inoculation would then be prohibited in those districts, and the same system would be gradually extended throughout the Province.

Emigration and Immigration.

46. The number of immigrants who arrived in Burma during the year rose from 239,000 to over 360,000. On the other hand, the number of emigrants who left the country also increased from 176,000 roughly to 320,000. The net addition to the population from this cause (40,718) was below the figure of the previous year (62,837).

Medical Relief.

47. There were 213 hospitals and dispensaries open in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 208 in 1905. The total attendance of in- and out-patients for 1906, excluding the figures for special and Railway institutions, was somewhat less than in the previous year. Small-pox occupied an important place in the list of diseases treated in the Province, there having been no less than 2,674 admissions. It is noteworthy that considerable increased activity has been exhibited in operative surgery, a specially large number of operations having been performed by the staff of the General Hospital, Rangoon. The net expenditure on medical relief under all heads (excluding investments) amounted to Rs. 10,26,752, an increase of Rs. 1,49,604 over the total of 1905. One Commissioned Medical Officer, two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Military Assistant Surgeon were added to their respective cadres. Though the sanctioned establishment of Hospital Assistants was 326, the work had to be conducted with 290, as no more could be obtained. The sanction of Government for the opening of the Medical School was received, and action was taken to secure candidates for training as Hospital Assistants at Rangoon.

Sanitation.

48. Out of a total income of nearly 124 lakhs collected for local purposes in the towns and districts of the Province, over 44 lakhs were spent on sanitation. Municipalities spent Rs. 38,42,214 out of Rs. 74,91,807, Town Funds Rs. 1,25,113 out of Rs. 4,36,202, and District and District Cess Funds Rs. 2,87,938 out of Rs. 44,63,775, the balance of Rs. 1,82,126 being met from Provincial revenues. As might be expected, expensive sanitary works and schemes of water-supply are confined to the larger towns. The Sanitary Board met four times during the year and advised on various matters, the most important of which was the Mandalay water-supply scheme.

49. The expenditure from all sources on vaccination during the 12 months prior to the 1st April 1907 amounted to rather more than in the preceding year. It was met to the extent of 41·36, 40·90, 15·57 and 2·17 per cent. respectively by the Government, Local Funds, Municipalities and Native States. The staff employed consisted of 244 vaccinators, 3 more than in 1905-06, supervised by 32 Native Superintendents compared with 16 in the previous year. The ratio of success in primary and re-vaccination cases was slightly worse than in 1905-06. Except in Rangoon, where the Municipality maintains its own depôt, all the vaccine lymph used in the Province was obtained from the Government Depôt at Meiktila. Vaccination.

50. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year closing on the 31st of March 1907 was 21,375. These were attended by 398,598 pupils, of whom 62,749 were girls. In comparison with those of the previous year the figures for public and private institutions show increases of 2 per cent. as regards numbers and 3 per cent. as regards attendance. The total expenditure on education was Rs. 34,87,233, a rise of more than 2 lakhs over the total of 1905-06. Provincial Funds spent Rs. 4,73,897, or Rs. 1,14,879 more than in the previous year, on institutions managed by Government, and Rs. 72,765 on institutions managed by District or Municipal Boards. The total amount expended on education from Provincial Funds was 16 lakhs. The Imperial grants of 4 and 2 lakhs continued, and against them must be set down Rs. 5,51,361 of the total expenditure from Provincial Funds. Fees rose from 8⅓ to over 9 lakhs. The number of primary public schools has increased by 274, with a rise of 7,472 pupils. The total expenditure upon Primary schools was Rs. 6,31,637, of which nearly 3 lakhs came from Provincial Funds, and over 2 lakhs from District Funds. Secondary schools have increased by 63 to a total of 569. In the Matriculation Examination, out of 251 candidates only 105 passed; this, however, is a very considerable improvement on the results of the previous year. The total expenditure on secondary schools rose to over 13 lakhs, of which a little over 4 came from Provincial Funds, 2¼ roughly from Municipal Funds, something over 1¼ from private sources, and 5 lakhs from fees, the balance being met from District Funds. The Government College and the Baptist College, Rangoon, were, as in previous years, the only Colleges teaching the University course or part of it. The former had 111 students on the roll, presented 60 for the F.A., and 16 for the B.A. Examinations, and passed 16 and 8 respectively in these tests. The Baptist College had 24 on the roll, and presented 10 for the F.A., of whom 3 passed. Progress was made in the erection of new buildings for the Insein Engineering School. The number of Normal and of European schools remained the same. Satisfactory results were obtained in the education of special classes, and the rapid and continuous progress of female education deserves special mention. Education.

51. The operations of the Archæological Department in Burma received much attention during the year under review. Draft rules and directions framed under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, were under consideration. The number of buildings maintained by Government was increased from 45 to 59 The preparation of lists of monuments worthy of preservation was still in progress but had not reached completion by the end of the year. No new survey or Archæology.

excavation work was undertaken. The total expenditure incurred on archæological works during the year 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 1,25,930 as compared with Rs. 72,123 in the previous year. The work of reconstructing the spire of the palace of the Burmese Kings at Mandalay was completed at a total cost of Rs. 65,173. The cost of the Department, exclusive of expenditure on works, amounted to Rs. 24,183.

Ecclesiastical.

52. The pay of senior chaplains who have completed five years in that grade was raised to Rs. 1,000 a month. At the same time future entrants into the service were debarred from the grant of exchange compensation allowance, and certain changes were made in the terms of their appointment.

BURMA SECRETARIAT, *11th December* 1907.

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PART II.

Note.—The departmental reports and other references on which this Report on the Administration of Burma is based are noted at the beginning of each Chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue and the Report on the Insein Reformatory School deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1906; the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on Co-operative Credit Societies and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1906 to the close of June 1907. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1907.

CHAPTER I.
PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan States for the year ended the 31st March 1907.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 31st March 1907.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier of Burma for the year ended the 31st March 1907.
Season and Crop Report for the year ended the 30th June 1907.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

Form of Administration.

Character of Land Tenures; System of Survey and Settlements.

Civil Divisions of British territory.

Details of the last Census; Tribes and Languages.

For information on the foregoing subjects, reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 75 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

Changes in the Administration.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Herbert Thirkell White, K.C.I.E., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year.

Administrative territorial units.

2. The only change effected during the year in divisional and district boundaries was due to the transfer of an area of about 22,500 acres from the Sagaing District in the Sagaing Division to the Myingyan District in the Meiktila Division. The growth of trade and population and the extension of cultivation account for the creation of a new subdivision and a new township in each of the districts of Pegu and Akyab. Elsewhere changes were due to reasons of administrative convenience. One township was abolished in Magwe District and a new one created. A township was abolished in Thayetmyo and three Mandalay townships were amalgamated into one. The net result of these changes was a decrease by one in the number of townships in the Province.

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Additions to and changes in the Administrative Staff.

3. During the year of report further steps were taken to maintain and improve the efficiency of administration in a rapidly advancing country by the introduction of changes and reforms, by the creationof new posts and by revision of the terms of existing appointments. Progress was made in carrying out the important and far-reaching reforms consequent on the report of the Police Commission. The most notable improvements introduced during the year were the appointment of an additional Deputy Inspector-General for Civil Police and of a Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation, and the re-organization of the superior grades of Police officers down to and including Assistant Superintendents. The constitution of the new Agricultural Department took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of an officer of the Commission as Director, a trained Agriculturist as Deputy Director and three expert advisers. The re-organization of the subordinate staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned in August 1906, but there has been unavoidable delay in giving effect to the changes involved. An officer of the Commission assumed control of the Excise Department as Commissioner of Excise with effect from the 1st May 1906. A separate appointment of Deputy Commissioner for Rangoon Town Lands and Collector for the Rangoon Town District was sanctioned and the appointment was filled from the 15th January 1907. The Collector of Rangoon, as he is called, relieves the Deputy Commissioner of Rangoon of all revenue business and of the registration of deeds and joint stock companies and the President of the Rangoon Municipality of his duties in connection with Rangoon Town Lands. To facilitate the disposal of work in the Public Works Department Secretariat the second Chief Engineer was appointed Joint Secretary to the Local Government with effect from the 1st November 1906.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(*i*) *Southern Shan States.*

Transfrontier relations.

4. The external frontier of the Southern Shan States has remained undisturbed during the year. The construction of permanent boundary pillars on the Chinese frontier proceeded smoothly and rapidly, the work being facilitated by the ready co-operation of the Chinese officials. Cordial relations were maintained with the French officials beyond the Mekong. No incidents of importance occurred on the Siamese frontier.

Internal Politics.

5. The internal political affairs of the different States with the exception of Mawkmai call for little comment. The death in November of the young *Sawbwa* left the affairs of the State mentioned in some confusion, the unravelling of which proved no easy task to the Administrator, and it is probable that the destruction by fire of Mawkmai town was in some way attributable to the unpopularity of the measures adopted by him. The administrations of the *Sawbwa* of Yawnghwe and of the Administratrix of Kĕnghkam are particularly worthy of favourable mention.

Financial and Economical.

6. The irregularity of the rainfall throughout the cultivating season and in particular its failure during August 1906 did considerable damage, and conditions were not a little aggravated by the appearance of insect pests. The only crops that can be accounted moderately successful were potatoes and cotton. The results obtained with wheat were decidedly disappointing. No fresh outbreak of cattle disease occurred; but in some regions the outbreak of the previous year had not yet been stamped out. Rules have been recommended to the Chiefs with the object of preventing the recrudescence of this disease. Trade was adversely affected by the prevalence of plague in Burma and the heavy mortality of the previous year among beasts of burden. Nevertheless the volume of trade with Burma shows a considerable increase, which is chiefly accounted for by larger imports. The figures relating to gold and silver mark a considerable absorption of these metals, which may safely be taken to indicate growing prosperity.

General.

7. The year was comparatively free from serious crime, while ordinary crime appears to have been more successfully dealt with than in the past. The arrangements for the administration of criminal justice remained practically unchanged except that it was found necessary to open three new courts in the Yawnghwe State. The Civil Justice (Subsidiary) Order, 1906, was extended to the Civil Station of Loilem; otherwise the Civil jurisdiction of British officers remained unchanged. The proposals relating to the Government Civil Police have been sanctioned since the close of the year under review. Educational progress was satisfactory nearly everywhere. In particular the School for the Sons of Chiefs at Taunggyi maintained the high degree of popularity already reached. The country was free from epidemics, prompt precautions having been taken in connection with two suspected cases of plague at Wetpyuye. The growing popularity of hospitals among the Shans is attributed to excellent work done by the Civil Surgeon, Taunggyi. The principal work of the year was the completion by the *Sawbwa* of Yawnghwe of the navigable canal from the Yawnghwe Lake to Mawlihsat on the proposed railway line. The *Sawbwa* is entitled to great credit for his enterprise and public spirit. In most of the other States much useful work has been done in connection with communications. From Government sources the principal subjects of expenditure were roads and barracks for the Military Police. The total amount expended was slightly less than in the previous year. The examination of the project of the proposed railway to the Southern Shan States made substantial progress. The proposed change from a narrow gauge to a metre gauge line and the investigation of the possibilities of electric traction have caused some unavoidable delay in the completion of the project. A final survey has now begun and the present season's work ought to result in a complete and practicable scheme which it may be possible to put into effect at an early date.

(*ii*) *Karenni.*

8. The State of Gantarawadi sustained a real loss by the death of its *Sawbwa*, Sawlawi, a man of conspicuous loyalty and ability who had administered his State for many years with success. Hkun Nan, his step-son, has just been appointed to succeed him. The rainfall in Karenni was irregular and unsatisfactory, the result being that the prices of foodstuffs rose very high. It is not yet possible to record any improvement of the conditions under which forests are being worked. If anticipations prove correct, the tin mines ought to become before long a valuable asset in Karenni. The trade in lac and cutch flourished. On the whole the condition of the people is prosperous.

(*iii*) *Northern Shan States.*

Political.

9. Conditions on the external frontier of the Northern Shan States continued normal during the year 1906-07. The annual conference between the local officers and the Chinese authorities of the adjoining prefectures of Yünnan took place in December, and an amicable settlement of many pending cases was arrived at. His Majesty's Consul at Têngyüeh contributed not a little to the maintenance of harmonious relations. The internal condition of the States was one of undisturbed tranquillity, and the people continue to be quietly prosperous and contented. The *Sawbwa* of Tawngpeng has at last escaped from his personal financial embarrassments; but evidence is not wanting to show that in matters relating to personal expenditure the *Sawbwas* are frequently in need of sound advice.

Financial and Economical.

10. Economic conditions have been on the whole satisfactory. The rainfall was normal in quantity, and, although its lateness affected some classes of produce deleteriously, the rice crop was above the average. The cultivation of tea is still extending in the western States, from which it seems clear that the local cultivators at all events have no anxiety as to finding a market for their produce. The price, however, is falling. Among adverse agricultural occurrences the chief were the continued mortality of cattle from rinderpest and the plague of caterpillars,

CHAP. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

which were doubtless identical with those that caused so much destruction in the Southern Shan States. Both imports into and exports from Burma increased in value. The increase under the former head is wholly accounted for by heavier extraction of forest produce. To all appearances the financial position of the different States remains satisfactory; but comparisons are difficult owing to the increased length of the period now under review.

General.

11. The condition of the States as regards crime remained practically unchanged, and it is evident that cases are well and expeditiously disposed of and that the confidence of the public in the administration of criminal justice is growing. On the other hand the state of several of the *Sawbwas'* police forces leaves a great deal to be desired. The aspect of educational affairs is a little less gloomy than it was in the previous year, and the progress of the Lashio school is encouraging; but much remains to be done before the position as a whole can be viewed with any complacency. Little progress seems to have been made with the project for the Hsipaw Hospital. The principal work which was nearly completed during the year was the iron bridge over the Namtu at Hsipaw. The Northern Shan States remained free from epidemic disease up to the close of the period under view.

(*iv*) *Mandalay Division.*

12. The administration of the State of Möng Mit proceeded smoothly during the year, the young *Sawbwa* having, under the experienced control of the Deputy Commissioner of the Ruby Mines District, made a very promising beginning of his rule. Agricultural conditions and the state of public health were on the whole satisfactory. Crime was practically non-existent and the volume of litigation insignificant. Nothing of special note occurred within the Kodaung Hill Tracts.

(*v*) *Sagaing Division.*

13. The year 1906-07 was uneventful in the Shan States of Hsawnghsup and Singkaling Hkamti. The principal village of the former State was visited by the Lieutenant-Governor.

(*vi*) *The Chin Hills.*

14. The most noticeable event of the year under review in the Chin Hills and adjacent frontier tracts was the massacre of 27 Shandus by Kons at the village of Bahe in the unadministered territory north of the Hill District of Arakan. This incident occurred in December 1906. It was apprehended at one time that the Shandus might attack the Kons and follow them into administered territory. Measures were therefore taken to protect the Northern Arakan Frontier. The Shandus, however, have undertaken not to make reprisals pending the orders of Government. It is proposed to take steps in the open season to settle the case. The relations between tribes in the administered and unadministered tracts were satisfactory. In the Chin Hills the year was uneventful; and progress in several directions has been steady and gratifying. Crime was insignificant. Agricultural conditions were for the most part satisfactory, and it is pleasing to record that new crops and new methods of cultivation are commending themselves to the Chins. The increase in the attendance at hospitals and in the number of those vaccinated indicates a feeling of growing confidence among the tribes. Among administrative measures mention must be made of the institution of a Chin Civil Police force, which has been modelled on the successful force in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts. A large number of unlicensed guns were withdrawn from the Northern tribes.

The sudden departure, owing to illness, of the Superintendent of the Pakôkku Hill Tracts at the commencement of the open season seemed at one time likely to lead to trouble, as disaffected persons were reported to be ready to avail themselves of the opportunity presented by the absence of a responsible officer. But the prompt measures adopted by the new Superintendent, culminating in the arrest of

the leader of the disturbance and the capture of his followers, removed all cause for alarm. A satisfactory feature of the incident was the correct attitude of the trans-frontier Chins. The behaviour of the Chin police under the Chief, Head Constable Om Tha throughout the year was excellent.

Little of importance occurred within the Arakan Hill Tracts, although some anxiety was felt on account of the trans-frontier events which have already been described. Education has made steady progress, and various sanitary improvements have been made at Paletwa. The Deputy Commissioner of Akyab successfully held the usual annual darbar at Yechaungwa. In the Kyaukpyu District the Chin tracts were visited by an Inspector of Police, and were found to be in a peaceful condition. On the Upper Chindwin frontier amicable relations continued to prevail between the Chins and the inhabitants of the valleys.

(*vii*) *The Kachin Hills.*

15. Relations with the trans-frontier tribes under Chinese control continued to be on the whole satisfactory, and the only serious irruption into British territory was a raid on the Kachin village of Tulum by twenty-three armed men from the Chinese Shan State of Mengwan. But the disturbances just across the border, caused by the failure of the Mengwan *Sawbwa* to control the Kachins of his State, and by disputes regarding the succession in Santra, gave rise to some unrest among the Kachins in the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts, and rendered necessary special measures to prevent them from becoming involved. These precautions were successful in restraining the tribes on this side of the border from taking an active part in the dissensions. The disputes in Santa resulted in the flight of the *Sawbwa*, who is a minor, from his State, and he is now with his mother a refugee in Myitkyina. The annual meeting for the settlement of frontier cases was held as usual, but its success was minimised by the death, a month previously, of Commandant Ma, who had done much in previous years to facilitate negotiations. The comparative immunity from disturbance enjoyed on the Chinese frontier was not shared by that part of the Myitkyina District which borders on unadministered territory. On the eastern section of the northern administrative boundary of that district several raids of a serious nature were committed during the year by Kachins from across the N'Maikha. The gravest outrage of the year was perpetrated by Kachins from the Sana tract west of the Malikha, who in March made a preconcerted attack on the temporary military police post at Auche in revenge for the death of one of their number, Shingrai La, who was killed by the Havildar of the post while resisting arrest for attempting to smuggle opium. The attack was easily repulsed as the post had been forewarned. The most noteworthy event in the internal administration of the Kachin Hills in the year under report was the death in February of Kansi La, the wealthy and influential *Duwa* of the Jade Mines Tract. He was succeeded without disturbance by his nephew La Saing. The Commissioner visited the tract and in accordance with his advice it has been decided not to change the existing system of administration which has on the whole been successful. The question of tolls and imposts was, however, examined. A reduction has been made in the excessive export rates which had been levied on coolies and mules leaving the mines with loads of jade, and the vexatious import duties on foodstuffs coming to the mines have been abolished. Notwithstanding the delay in starting work at the Tawmaw quarries caused by the death of Kansi La, the output of jade was almost double that of the previous year. Increased trade and closer supervision at the mines may be expected when the road from Nanyaseik, now in course of construction by the Public Works Department, is completed, and the mule road to Tawmaw is opened. The general condition of the people in the administered Kachin area was prosperous and otherwise satisfactory during the year, and no difficulty was experienced in collecting tribute. The experiment of enlisting Kachins in the Military Police continues to be satisfactory. The statements of criminal cases and of the action taken under the Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation show that the law has been judiciously applied. The steadily increasing number of civil cases is

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evidence of the growth of trade between the Kachins and the Burmans and Shans of the plains. Steps are being taken to regulate the possession of firearms in the hill tracts in the east of the Myitkyina District. An examination of the hill tracts in the Bhamo District with a view to the adoption of measures to prevent the destruction of forests is to be undertaken in the coming open season.

Condition of the People.

16. The character of the agricultural season in the year 1906-07 varied a good deal in different parts of the Province and at different periods of the year, but on the whole it may be described as not unfavourable. The crop was about normal, while harvest prices of paddy were exceptionally high throughout the Province, surpassing all previous records in many markets. A decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies, the object of which is to enable the cultivators to help themselves and to deliver themselves from the slough of debt in which many of them are sunk. The volume of trade expanded enormously and the figures of the year are well ahead of all previous records. The increasing wealth and prosperity of the country are undeniable and are reflected in the material condition of the people. On the other hand it must be admitted that the year was generally unhealthy, plague was prevalent and the death-rate in respect of all the principal diseases was higher than usual.

CHAPTER II.
ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1907.

Land Records Administration Report for the year ending the 30th June 1907.

Twenty-first issue of the Agricultural Statistics of India for the years 1902-03 to 1906-07, Volume I, Tables V, V—A and B and VI, VI—A and B.

Realization of the Revenue.

Demand, recoveries, remissions and outstandings.

17. The area under assessment increased in Lower Burma by nearly 200,000 acres, but in Upper Burma it fell by 158,000 acres. The current demand, 244½ lakhs, was less than 3 lakhs above that of the previous year, while there was a decrease of current remissions of over 7 lakhs and in outstandings of nearly half a lakh. In consequence the current collections (239 lakhs) were over 10 lakhs better than the figure of 1905-06. The most important increases in the demand were due to settlements, original and revision, to the imposition of the maximum rates on expiry of the period of intermediate rates and to the opening of the Shwebo Canal, while the largest falling off was due to floods in Hanthawaddy District. Remissions declined from 11 to under 4 lakhs, but this amount is still above the average. Moreover, the decrease of 7 lakhs is to some extent fictitious as the new system of non-assessment reduces remissions. Where destruction of crops is widespread it has been found that the ordinary procedure for granting remission is inadequate, and special measures are necessary. Proposals were submitted by the Commissioner, Pegu Division, for dealing with such cases, under which when the crops on the whole or any well-defined portion of a *kwin* have been destroyed by floods no assessment should be made in respect of the area certified by the Township Officer to be so destroyed. These proposals were accepted subject to modifications in points of detail, and effect has been given during the year of report to the orders issued. Outstandings amounted to 1·39 lakhs against 1·87 lakhs in 1905-06. Hanthawaddy again showed by far the largest amount (Rs. 76,865), the difficulty in collecting the revenue being attributed to the widespread destruction of crops by floods.

Coercive processes.

18. An increase on the large figures of 1905-06 occurred as regards processes for the recovery of revenue affecting property, but not as regards those affecting persons. Thus, while the number of notices (47,035) increased largely by 6,190 and warrants of attachment (22,569) and sales (3,393) considerably there was a small decline in the number of warrants of arrest (11,636) and a substantial reduction, from 4,217 to 2,607, in the total of persons arrested. Sixty-five defaulters, against 80, were committed to jail. These figures show that, while revenue was rendered more difficult to recover by two unfavourable seasons, officers made a genuine attempt to avoid issuing unnecessary processes against the person. The explanations offered by District officers of fluctuations in the figures are many and various. On a general view of the returns of processes and proceedings, it appears that the issue of coercive processes in Henzada and Myaungmya requires more attention and that, taking into consideration the decision to assess Chittagonian immigrants, the revenue officers in Akyab and Kyaukpyu have made praiseworthy efforts to reduce the number of proceedings in their respective districts in circumstances of special difficulty. It also appears that the main factors in the figures reported under this head are the character of the agricultural season and of the Deputy Commissioner. The amount for the realization of which application was made increased from 11·36 to 11·79 lakhs and the amount realized from 8·91 to 9·68 lakhs. These figures by

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themselves would justify some increase in the number of proceedings as they show that there was a little more to recover and that a considerable portion of it was obtained.

Surveys.

Demarcation preliminary to Survey.

19. Demarcation in advance of cadastral survey was undertaken in the Pyapôn and Bogale Townships of the Pyapôn District by a Demarcation Officer. Work was commenced on the 1st November 1906 and completed on the 15th March 1907. The total area demarcated was 170 square miles and the cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 999. In Akyab an area of 60 square miles was demarcated by the local staff in the Maungdaw and Rathedaung Townships. A special Demarcation Officer was engaged in demarcation in the Kyaukpyu District for a period of four months, but only 24 square miles were completed in this time owing to the unnecessary inclusion of extensive jungle and hills in the *kwins* for survey. The cost of the demarcation amounted to Rs. 870. The preliminary demarcation of 50 square miles in the Tharrawaddy District was effected by local Inspectors and Surveyors. An area of 56 square miles was demarcated in the unsettled tracts of the Amherst District by an Inspector of the Revision Survey Party employed in the district in addition to his survey duties.

Surveys by Imperial Agency.

20. No. 7 Party of the Survey of India brought its operations to a close in the Pakôkku District by the completion of the detail survey of 514 square miles which had been traversed in the previous season. Six hundred and eighty-six square miles were also traversed in the upper section of the Thayetmyo District, of which 43 square miles were surveyed in detail. In the Pyapôn District a total area of 170 square miles was traversed and 132 square miles cadastrally surveyed. The cost of the season's work amounted to Rs. 1,79,854. The Party was also engaged in the preparation of the Burma traverse charts, at a cost of Rs. 2,068.

Surveys by Provincial Agency:—(i) Original.

21. During the year of report special, or extension, surveys by special staffs were undertaken in the Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Tharrawaddy Districts under the immediate supervision of the local Superintendents of Land Records. The survey of cultivated blocks in the unsettled tracts of the Akyab District was continued during the year. The cadastral section surveyed in detail a total area of 34 square miles, containing 13,345 acres of cultivation, in 27 *kwins*. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 9,913. Cadastral survey was carried out in certain cultivated blocks bordering on the older surveyed tracts in the Kyaukpyu District. The area cadastrally surveyed was 20 square miles, containing 6,529 acres of cultivation, and the cost of the operations was Rs. 9,190. In Tharrawaddy District the area surveyed in detail totalled 43 square miles, containing 9,148 acres under actual cultivation. The cost of the survey amounted to Rs 8,788. The work of demarcation and survey of all important towns in the Province which was inaugurated two years ago was proceeded with as far as practicable in 19 districts during the year. The surveys undertaken are throughout on a uniform scale of 64 inches to the mile. The connected work of tenure enquiry and the subsequent preparation of the town lands rolls was also advanced as far as possible in eight districts. In all, 17 Demarcation Officers were employed in the year on demarcation work in 41 towns, for periods varying from two to nine months. The total area demarcated was 58·25 square miles, at a cost of Rs. 16,351. Surveys were carried out in 42 towns altogether and the total area traversed was 48·66 square miles. For the cadastral survey 6 Inspectors, 47 field-surveyors, and 20 draughtsmen and computors were employed for varying periods extending from two to seven months, and the total area mapped was 50·92 square miles. The entire cost of the survey operations of the year, for both field and office work amounted to Rs. 34,431. The work of demarcation and survey of fisheries by special staffs in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn Districts was continued in the year. Over 400 fisheries were demarcated and surveyed at a cost of Rs. 14,681. *Potta* surveys were carried out by a staff consisting of 12 Inspectors and 87 surveyors; 5,423 cases were dealt with and 53,123 acres were surveyed against 6,012 cases and 49,114 acres in 1905-06. The cost of the surveys, Rs. 26,318, shows an increase of three thousand rupees.

Surveys by Provincial Agency: (ii) Revision.

22. The map and area and other connected work of the recess relating to the various revision surveys by special staffs executed during the year 1905-06 in the Ma-ubin, Pyapôn, Pegu, Amherst, and Thatôn Districts was duly completed in the recess season. In the year of report Revision Surveys by special agency were in progress in the districts of Pyapôn, Pegu, Amherst, Thatôn and Hanthawaddy. In the first two districts the operations were conducted by special Superintendents of Land Records and in the other districts by the local Superintendents. The resurveys which remained over from the previous year in the Pyapôn District were undertaken by a remnant of the old Ma-ubin-Pyapôn Party. The work was finished in two months, December and January, and on its conclusion the staff was transferred to Pegu to augment the Revision Survey Party there. The area resurveyed was 38,506 acres under occupation, or about one-half the total occupied area of the *kwins* dealt with. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 8,669. The cost-rate works out to 3 annas 7 pies per acre of cultivation. The completion of this work brings to a close the revision survey operations which have been in progress by the party in the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn Districts for the past four years. The Pegu Revision Survey Party continued its operations in the Pegu, Pyuntaza and Nyaunglebin Townships. The cadastral section resurveyed 196 *kwins* with 204,200 acres under occupation, including two *kwins* of the previous season which were redone owing to faulty work. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 48,730, giving a cost-rate per acre of cultivation, for both revision and original survey, of 3 annas 9 pies per acre. The Party has now worked for two years in the district, and has completed the entire programme of revision and original survey work alloted to it. The total cultivated area surveyed in the two seasons was 345,281 acres or 11 per cent. over the estimate as revised. The four-year programme of revision surveys in the Amherst and Thatôn Districts which was commenced last year was continued in the year of report, with slightly increased staffs. In Amherst, revisions in the year were carried on almost entirely in the Kyaikmaraw Township with small areas in each of the Chaungzôn, Moulmein and Kawkareik Townships. In the unsettled portion 36 new *kwins* were traversed, enclosed by a main circuit, and 40 subtraverses taken; the area of the traverses was 51 square miles. The cadastral section first took up and completed the 10 *kwins* and 3 *dani* islands of the unfinished programme of 1905-06, and then 17 other *kwins* of this year's programme, after which 13 *kwins* of new cultivation in the unsettled tracts, with an area of 18 square miles, were surveyed. Altogether 38,316 acres of cultivation were mapped. The cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 17,446; this gives a cost-rate per acre of cultivation of 7 annas 3 pies. In Thatôn the surveys were chiefly in the Thatôn Township. The field-surveyors completed the revision survey of 62,350 acres of cultivation, and the cost amounted to Rs. 16,854, which works out at 4 annas 4 pies per acre of the cultivated area. Surveys in the Hanthawaddy District were undertaken by a special staff. The cultivated area surveyed amounted to 88,169 acres, situated in the Kyauktan Subdivision and in the Kungyangôn Township of the Twante Subdivision in which a revision of settlement is to be made next year. The cost of the operations was Rs. 14,483; this gives the cost-rate per acre of cultivation at 2 annas 8 pies. Special surveyors were employed, as usual, in the annual resurvey of cultivation on island *kwins* in the districts of Mandalay, Sagaing, Lower Chindwin and Myingyan. In view of the approach of a revision of Settlement in the Meiktila District the local authorities were requested to have the *kwins* in which the maps were not up to date resurveyed, and in accordance with these orders the resurvey of 6,941 acres of cultivation was carried out by local surveyors.

Settlements.

Regular original settlements.

23. As in the previous year three parties were engaged on regular original settlement work, one in Lower Burma and two in Upper Burma. The total cost of the original settlement of Mergui, which was completed during the year, was Rs. 54,475 or just over 10 annas per acre. The comparatively high cost was due to the extremely scattered nature of the cultivation and the difficulties of communication

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as well as to the fact that the cultivated area was small. New rates were notified with effect from the 1st July 1907 and resulted in an enhancement of the revenue demand from 1·51 to 2·36 lakhs. Upper Burma Settlement Party No. 3 continued the settlement of Pakôkku District and Party No. 4 that of the Lower Chindwin. In Pakôkku 111,594 acres of cultivated area were completed and in the Lower Chindwin 230,666 at a cost in the former case of Rs. 94,756 and in the latter of Rs. 93,230. The cost per acre so far works outs roughly at 11 annas for Pakôkku and 4¾ annas for the Lower Chindwin. Original settlements in Upper Burma are necessarily complicated and ordinarily the cost per acre is more than in Lower Burma. The low rate in the Lower Chindwin District is due to the compactness of the cultivated area.

Summary original settlement.

24. The summary settlement of 120 square miles in the Sandoway District including 15,590 acres of cultivation was completed at a cost of 7½ annas per acre. The report was submitted to Government, but orders had not been passed at the close of the year.

Revision settlements.

25. Three revision settlement parties were at work during the year, two in Lower Burma and one in Upper Burma. The Mergui Settlement Party was moved to Moulmein in the end of 1906 to undertake the revision of the Amherst District. By the end of the year 314 square miles including 133,760 acres of cultivation had been completed at a cost of 5 annas per acre. The revision settlement of Ma-ubin, Myaungmya and Kyaiklat Township of Pyapôn District was completed at a total cost of Rs. 54,500 or a little over 2½ annas per acre, the small cost being due to the great extent and compactness of the cultivated area. The new rates took effect from the 1st July 1907 and resulted in a great increase of the revenue demand from 7·24 to 12·64 lakhs. The revision settlement of the rest of Pyapôn District by the same Party has been finished but the rates have not been settled. The revision operations in the Mandalay Canal area were completed by a section of No. 5 Party which afterwards joined the rest of the Party at Minbu where the revision settlement was advancing towards completion at the end of the year.

General.

26. Apart from the revisions referred to in the preceding paragraphs new rates were notified during the year for the Kyauksè and Mandalay Districts and for the Samôn tract in the Meiktila District. The expenditure incurred during the year on settlement operations amounted to 3·62 lakhs, rather more than the figure of 1905-06, while the enhancement in the land revenue demand consequent on orders passed during the year reached 7·09 lakhs as compared with only 2·82 lakhs in the previous year.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

27. The total area under supplementary survey amounted to 47,470 square miles, showing an increase over the previous year of 3,818 square miles. Of this increase 3,680 square miles are in the Shwebo District, in which a regular Land Records staff is now at work, settlement operations having been completed. The area assessed by the Land Records Department rose by over 50,000 acres to 10,987,827 and the total assessment of the year amounted to Rs. 2,54,81,253, an increase of Rs. 5,22,080 as compared with the previous year. Of this sum over two lakhs relate to the Shwebo District alone, of which the figures have been for the first time included in the annual returns. The steady expansion of cultivation, the curtailment of fallows and the assessment of time-expired grants have contributed in most districts to the increase in the revenue. The other districts in which the principal increases occurred are Ma-ubin (Rs. 2,07,000), due mainly to an enhancement of rates, the result of revision settlement in the Danubyu, Yandoon and Pantanaw Townships; Kyauksè (Rs. 1,52,000), owing to the imposition in the year of revised rates on a revision of settlement of the entire district; Henzada (Rs. 1,21,000), owing in part to the imposition of maximum rates of assessment in the Henzada and Zalun Townships and in part to extensions of cultivation; and

Pyapôn (Rs. 87,000), due mostly to extensions. On the other hand there were large decreases in Magwe (Rs. 1,09,000), Myingyan (Rs. 78,000) and Meiktila (Rs. 97,000), owing to unfavourable weather conditions and consequent decreased cultivation and cropped areas. In Hanthawaddy the decrease (Rs. 99,000) is more apparent than real, as the figures of the year of report show the net demand, while those of the past year represented the gross demand before remissions.

Cost of Supplementary Survey.

28. The total cost of the Land Records establishment amounted to Rs. 11,72,652. The figure was in excess of that of 1905-06 by Rs. 1,00,785, due in part to an increase of establishments and to a slight improvement in the rates of pay and travelling allowance of the superior staff, but chiefly owing to the inclusion for the first time of the Shwebo District in the returns on the withdrawal from the district of the Settlement Party to which the Land Records establishment was formerly attached. The cost per square mile in the year was Rs. 24·71 and per cent. of the assessment 4·60; in both cases the rates are slightly higher than the corresponding rates quoted last year.

Survey Schools.

29. The number of Government Survey schools was 18 as before, all of which except five are located in Government buildings. A school-house is now being built at Insein. The total number of pupils on the rolls of the schools on the 31st March 1907 was 393, of whom 31 per cent. were exempt from the payment of the school fee as compared with 402 in the previous year. Sixty-eight scholarships of the first grade and 140 of the 2nd grade at Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 each per mensem, respectively, were granted during the year. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the schools amounted to Rs. 40,462, while the total income from fees and other sources was Rs. 5,561: the net cost therefore was Rs. 34,901. This works out at Rs. 89 per pupil, or Rs. 8 more than last year. At the Syndicate examination of April 1907, the number of candidates from Government Survey Schools who succeeded in passing in Surveying, Arithmetic and Revenue Law were respectively, 277, 131 and 190 or 79, 42 and 59 per cent. of the number presented in each of these subjects. The passes in Surveying and Revenue Law show improvement, while the results in Arithmetic were much below the figure of 1906 (236).

Transfers of land.

30. As compared with the previous year the area of land sold (539,214 acres) declined slightly and the area of land mortgaged largely from 467,326 to 390,316 acres. On the other hand the area redeemed and that on mortgage at the end of the year showed substantial rises of over 12 and over 6 per cent. respectively. 309,214 acres were redeemed during the year and at the end over 40 million acres were on mortgage. The rates per acre of land sold, mortgaged and on mortgage at the end of the year showed a respective rise of ·28, 3·04 and 6·28 per cent. The rise in the price of land is ascribed to the rise in the value of paddy and to the increase of population and decrease of cultivable waste, and explains generally the variations of area recorded. The increased value of land allows less land to be sold or mortgaged to obtain the sum required and the increased value of the crop allows of larger redemptions. The increase of the area on mortgage at the end of the year is attributed to the recent declaration by Government of its intention to discourage the passing of land into the hands of non-cultivators. Non-cultivating mortgagees have accordingly preferred to let mortgages on land, to which the mortgagors have not obtained proper rights of transfer stand over, in the hope of being paid voluntarily, knowing that they have no hope of obtaining payment by compulsion. This factor is alleged also to have reduced sales of similar land, and consequently to have had some effect in reducing the total area sold.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

31. The area granted or leased for cultivation during the year fell again from 53,393 to 41,542 acres. In 1905-06 the figures were very nearly those of 1900-01. Then from 1901-02 to 1903-04 the figures were generally over 100,000. In 1904-05

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a decline began with the suspension of the issue of pottas in the Pegu Division and has continued now for two years. The continuance for two years of the experiment of suspension has been sanctioned, but the question of resuming the issue of grants in suburban areas has been under discussion. Commissioners of Divisions in Lower Burma other than Pegu reported on a proposal to extend the suspension of the issue of grants to their divisions and the matter is now under the Financial Commissioner's consideration. The Commissioners of Irrawaddy and Tenasserim are favourable, the Commissioner of Arakan, a division in which there has never been the congestion of work which has occurred in the other three Lower Burma Divisions, is against the proposal. At the beginning of the year, 8,596 applications for grants or leases were pending, 10,663 new applications were received; 11,219 were disposed of, and 8,040 remained pending at the end of the year. Under 300 of the last total belongs to Upper Burma. In Amherst, Toungoo and Thatôn, the districts in which at the end of 1905-06 there was the largest number of pending cases, special grant officers were employed. In Upper Burma as usual no leases were issued in the Minbu Division and in other divisions leases were either not issued at all, or only to a small extent, except in the Shwebo, Myitkyina and Mandalay Districts, where respectively 1,612, 342, and 312 acres were leased. Three hundred and ninety-nine acres were granted or leased to headmen as *thugyisa* against 1,027 acres in 1905-06. As regards leases for rubber cultivation there is little of interest in the reports. The firm which in the previous year cleared 628 acres near Shwegyin transferred their lease of 1,500 odd acres to two Ceylon planters. It was intended by the transferees to form a company, but the attempt proved unsuccessful and the lease was transferred once more, this time to the Mergui Rubber Company, a body which had already negotiated for land off the Mergui coast for rubber cultivation.

Revenue-free grants.

32. The area granted free for religious edifices increased by 31 acres to 220 acres. This total is considerably over the average of the seven years ending with 1905-06, namely, 158 acres. The area granted revenue-free for public purposes declined from 173 to 79 acres.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

33. There are no Government or Wards' estates in Burma.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Land revenue paying classes.

34. The total area occupied by agriculturists and non-agriculturists, both resident and non-resident increased during the year, but the percentage of area occupied by agriculturists to total occupied area which was 85·94 in 1904-05 and 85·27 in 1905-06, has fallen to 84·75. It may be noted, however, that the last decline amounts to ·52 per cent. only as against ·67 in the previous twelve months. It is perhaps too early to ascribe this result to the measures adopted with a view to checking the acquisition of land by non-agriculturists, but it is at any rate satisfactory to note that the downward tendency of these figures has slackened. The percentage of area occupied by resident to that occupied by total non-agriculturists, which was 39 in 1904-05 and 38 in 1905-06, was 37 in 1906-07, the decrease being uniform. Projects of legislation for dealing with the alienation of land by agriculturists continued to be discussed during the year.

Tenants.

35. The area let at full rents to tenants rose by some 140,000 acres to a total of 2,460,000 acres. Various reasons are offered for fluctuations in the figures. At the same time the number of tenants decreased by about 6,000 to 175,000. The percentage of tenants who have rented their land continuously for five years and over fell from 15 to 13. The aggregate rent paid for land in the province increased during the year by no less than 28 per cent. The rise is generally ascribed to enhanced prices for paddy, increase of population and decrease of culturable waste. Tenancy legislation was under consideration during the year, but no final decision was arrived at.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1906.
Report on the Police Administration of Rangoon Town for the year 1906.
Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1906.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1906.
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the year 1906.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year ending the 31st March 1907.
Resolution on the working of Municipalities in Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and launches in Burma for the year 1906-07.
Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year ending the 31st March 1907.
Forty-first issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign countries in the year ending the 31st March 1907 and the four preceding years, Volume II, Shipping, Tables 1, 6 and 7.
Forty-first issue of the Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India for the year ending the 31st March 1907, Tables 2 to 7.
Report of the Commissioners of the Port of Rangoon for the year ending the 31st March 1907.
Twelfth issue of the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1906-07 and preceding years, Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VII, IX, XI and XVII.

Legislating Authority.

36. The constitution of the Legislating Authority of the Province is described in paragraphs 106 to 109 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.

Course of Legislation.

37. The four Bills described in paragraph 48 of the Report for 1905-06 became law during the year as Burma Acts I, II, III and IV of 1906. Several other Bills were under the consideration of the Local Government; and five, the provisions of which are summarized below, were introduced in the Burma Legislative Council in December 1906 and February 1907 and have since become law. Later in the year three additional Bills were introduced in Council. The object of the Lower Burma Land and Revenue Law Amendment Act, 1907, is to empower the Local Government to regulate the extraction of clay for brick-making, of laterite and of other minor mineral products which cannot suitably be dealt with under the special Mining rules issued by the Government of India. It was found that, though the right to such minerals has always been reserved to Government, there were no provisions for the proper enforcement of such right or authorizing Government to regulate the extraction of such minerals. Suitable powers for this purpose and for the regulation of the transport of minerals have, therefore, been conferred by the Act. The opportunity has also been taken to render it compulsory on parties to an alienation of land to report the transaction in order that the Government registers of such transactions may become a more reliable record of titles to land. Such reporting was already required in the case of leased and grant lands and has been the common practice in the case of other lands. The object of the Rangoon Water-works Act Amendment Act, 1907, is to enable the Rangoon Municipal Committee to minimize the evil likely to arise in cases where it becomes necessary to cut off the water-supply to private houses owing to the pipes or other fittings being out of repair to such an extent as to cause a waste of water. In such cases the sanitary appliances are likely to become a danger to health, and great inconvenience is caused to the tenants by the apathy of the owners. The Act confers on the Committee the power to

Work of Legislative Council.

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execute necessary repairs at the cost of the owner on a failure of the owner to do so after receipt of notice. The Burma Towns Act, 1907, consolidates the law relating to the administration of towns in Upper and Lower Burma. Previously the two parts of the Province were subject to separate enactments which were almost identical, and there was likewise no great difference in the practical application of these enactments in the different towns of the Province. The opportunity was also taken to introduce some minor improvements for the purpose of making the law clearer, more especially as regards the extinction of fires and the prevention of the spreading of contagious disease among human beings and cattle. The Rangoon Police Act Amendent Act, 1907, confers on officers of the Rangoon Police force power to arrest any person committing an offence under the Act in view of a Police officer if the name and address of such person is unknown to him and cannot be ascertained then and there. I also confers on the Commissioner of Police the powers exercisable by the Commissioner of Police in Presidency Towns under the Indian Lunatic Asylums Act, 1858, and empowers the Superintendents of Police to issue warrants for the search of common-gaming houses under section 6 of the Burma Gambling Act, 1899. The latter power was previously exercisable by the Commissioner of Police, but it was found that the gamblers could, by a frequent change of the scene of operations, evade the search when time was lost in applying to that officer. The Act also increases the maximum penalty for begging to imprisonment not exceeding one month, as it was found that the previous maximum was insufficient for the suppression of the professional begging carried on by a class which flocks to Burma from all parts of India on account of the larger earnings obtainable in Rangoon. The Burma Highway Act, 1907, remedies a defect of the existing law under which District officers were powerless to prevent the rapid destruction of road-surfaces by unsuitable vehicles. In the case of certain roads the surface has been regularly cut up by narrow-tyred carts carrying heavy loads which proceeded in the same track until the parallel ruts became too deep for the progression of such vehicles. The road soon became impassable and in the case of the Mogôk-Thabeitkyin road the damage to the carts and bullocks was so great that after a single journey the bullocks were often sold for slaughter and the carts for firewood. It was believed that the use of proper wheels would not only minimize these evils but would also be more economical even to the cartmen. The Act confers suitable powers for the regulation of such matters and generally for the regulation of traffic. The latter power is also very necessary in the case of dangerous hill roads. As the three other Bills, namely, the Burma Village Bill, the Burma Defile Traffic Bill and the Lower Burma Courts Act Amendment Bill, were not passed during the year of report a description of these enactments may more suitably appear in next year's Report.

General Acts affecting Burma.

38. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year :—

I. An Act further to Amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. [The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1906.]

III. The Indian Coinage Act, 1906.

V. An Act further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

VI. An Act further to amend the law relating to merchant seamen. [The Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1906.]

VII. An Act to amend the Excise Act, 1896. [The Excise (Amendment) Act, 1906.]

VIII. An Act to amend the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883, and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. [The Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans (Amendment) Act, 1906.]

Extension of enactments to the Shan States.

39. The Burma Gambling Act, 1899 (Burma Act I of 1899), was extended subject to certain restrictions and modifications to the Myelat in the Southern Shan States.

Police.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Police Commission Reforms.

40. Further progress was made during the year 1906 in carrying into effect reforms resulting from the Report of the Police Commission. The more important improvements introduced in the course of the year were as follows: (*a*) appointment of two Deputy Inspectors-General of Ranges in place of one Deputy Inspector-General; (*b*) reorganization of the superior grades of police officers down to and including Assistant Superintendents; (*c*) abolition of the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Police and appointment of a Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation; (*d*) absorption of Chief Head Constables, Head Constables and Sergeants in the new grades of Sub-Inspector and Head Constable on increased pay; (*e*) opening of the Provincial Training School under a District Superintendent; and (*f*) appointment of a Deputy Inspector-General for Railways and Criminal Investigation. The total cost of the reforms introduced up to November 1907 amounted to 13·59 lakhs per annum, of which Rs. 63,000 per annum concerned the Rangoon Police.

Strength, distribution and cost.

41. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police force, excluding the Rangoon Police, at the end of 1906, was 1,599 officers and 11,613 men or 33 officers and 15 men more than in the previous year. Small additions to the force were sanctioned in the Kyaukpyu, Mandalay and Myitkyina Districts. The force actually entertained was below strength by no less than 46 officers and 1,011 men. The shortage in officers was due to the orders of Government to fill up only 50 per cent. of the vacancies in the rank of Sub-Inspectors by the promotion of head constables and the shortage in constables was mainly due to the stoppage of recruiting in Upper Burma districts. The number of police stations was two more (487) and the number of outposts four less (211). The cost of the Police force for the year under report was Rs. 45,03,875 as against Rs. 41,46,872 in the previous year, the increase of Rs. 3,57,003 being almost entirely due to the introduction of the further instalment of reforms mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Recruitment and conduct.

42. Difficulty is still reported in obtaining recruits in the districts of Mergui, Upper Chindwin, Pakôkku and Myitkyina. Thirty-one officers and 486 men were dismissed the force for all causes, these figures being an increase of eight officers and a decrease of 34 men as compared with the figures for 1905. Other departmental punishments show a satisfactory decrease of 103 officers and 261 men, the figures for the year under report being 189 officers and 844 men punished. Only 59 officers and men were rewarded by special promotion, being a decrease of 23 on the 1905 figures. This decrease is entirely due to the abolition of grading in the rank of constable. When grading existed men could be rewarded by a step of promotion, but the incremental system of salaries based on fixed periods of service has done away with rewards by promotion. One thousand seven hundred and ninety-three officers and men or nine more than in 1905 were rewarded during the year. There were fewer discharges and desertions during the year, but more resignations. Seven more deaths occurred in the force and the average admissions into hospital also increased somewhat.

Education and training.

43. The year under report exhibits an increase of 37 literate officers, but a decrease of 317 literate Constables, the figures for 1906 being 1,530 officers and 8,907 constables. The decrease in the number of literate Constables in the force is due almost entirely to the stoppage of recruiting in Upper Burma, the casualties among the literate men remaining unfilled. The total number of old constables trained amounted to 5,649 as compared with 6,545 in 1905, and of this number 5,131 or 91 per cent. qualified, being a small improvement of 2 per cent. The percentage of casualties among recruits who entered the Training depôts, rose from 22 in 1905 to 27 in the year of report, being 469 out of a total of 1,745 entrants. One thousand and forty-seven recruits presented themselves for the final examination, of whom 982 or 94 per cent. passed. This

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shows a falling off of 2 per cent. on the figure of 1905. The number of officers and men who appeared for the quarterly examinations was 1,731, of whom 301 obtained 1st class, 600 2nd class and 606 3rd class certificates, which is 2 per cent. worse than the 1905 figure of merit. A proposal for establishing a Central Training School for Indian Constables was under consideration. Eight thousand one hundred and fifty-seven old Constables and 737 recruits were put through their annual musketry course, and the figure of merit shows a satisfactory rise from 48 in 1905 to 59 in 1906. The Provincial Police Training School started work on the 7th April 1906, when there were four Probationary Assistant Superintendents and 20 Probationary Sub-Inspectors present. The conduct of the Probationers and cadets was on the whole very good and the new school appears to have been successfully launched.

Buildings.

44. During the year much has been done for the housing of the Police. In accordance with the orders of Government the construction of temporary police cottages and barracks has been entirely discontinued, and a steady improvement both in the amount and quality of police accommodation is being effected. Enhanced powers of sanction up to Rs. 2,500 were delegated to the Inspector-General of Police and have been found useful.

Cognizable crime.

45. True cases of cognizable crime of all classes exhibit a small decrease of 628 cases or a little over one per cent. as compared with the figures for 1905, the totals for the two years being 42,469 and 43,097. Excepting class V, "Minor offences against property," which is responsible for an increase of 173 cases, the remaining five classes into which offences are divided all exhibit small decreases. Excluding class VI, which only deals with "offences against religion," "public nuisances" and "offences under special and local laws," none of which can be characterized as true crime, the number of true cognizable cases under classes I to V amounted to 27,428 in 1906 as compared with 27,896 in 1905. Under class I, "Offences against the State, etc," the decrease of 76 cases is principally due to decreases in "Offences relating to coin," "other offences against public justice" and "personating public servant or soldier." The decrease under class II, "Serious offences against the person," is 374 cases and is mainly accounted for by satisfactory decreases of 93 and 163 cases, respectively, under grievous hurt and hurt, and 126 cases under criminal force to public servant or women, etc. Murders show a decrease of 24 cases, but this decrease is more than counter-balanced by increases of 27 attempts at murder and 15 culpable homicides. Class III, "Serious offences against the person and property," exhibits a decrease of 127 cases, but this improvement is unfortunately due to a falling off in the less important classes of crime, whereas the more important classes exhibit increases. Dacoities increased by 32 and robberies by 15. Lurking house-trespass and house-breaking show a substantial decrease of 157 cases. Tharrawaddy, with an increase of 14 dacoities, and Bassein, with an increase of 12 robberies, are the districts mainly responsible for the increase in these two classes of crime. The increase of 12 robberies in Bassein is, however, compensated for by a decrease of 6 dacoities. Class V, "Minor offences against property," is the only one responsible for an increase, which amounts to 173 cases as compared with the 1905 figures. The returns show increases of 181 cases of cattle theft, 155 cases of ordinary theft and 22 cases of criminal breach of trust, and decreases of 3 cases of receiving stolen property, 9 cases of cheating, 153 cases of criminal or house-trespass and 20 cases of breaking closed receptacles. The increases in cattle and ordinary thefts are an unfortunate feature of the year's record. The year under report shows a marked rise in violent crimes, the increase under all classes totalling 102 cases. No less than 920 violent crimes were dealt with in 1906 as compared with 818 in 1905. Culpable homicide shows an increase of 15 cases. Dacoities without murder and preparation and assembly for committing dacoity number 100 and exhibit an increase of 32 cases. Lower Burma was responsible for 84 of these, and Upper Burma for only 16, a difference which is a striking comment on the degrees of criminality of the lower and upper portions of the province. Taking all classes of violent crimes and excluding

the 13 cases appertaining to the Railway Police, Lower Burma districts report 719 cases and Upper Burma districts 201. The results of Police working in all classes of violent crime is practically the same as in 1905. The most unsatisfactory feature in connection with violent crime was the small portion of stolen property recovered. The percentage of recoveries has dropped from 14 in 1905 to four in 1906, a very serious retrogression. Though the majority of districts report that great assistance has been rendered by village headmen and villagers in the detection of violent crime and in the arrest of men concerned therein, the Inspector-General of Police states that not only the number of cases in which resistance was offered has declined, but also that it has been of a less effective nature than in 1905. The number of cases of violent crime in which firearms were carried increased from 38 to 62 and the number of offences under the Arms Act from 445 to 473. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

46. Exclusive of cases under special laws, which may be left out of account in considering the results of Police work, a total of 27,428 true cases as compared with 27,896 cases in 1905 were dealt with by the Courts and Police. Of this number the Police held investigation into 20,337 and refused investigation into 2,284 reports, and 11,935 cases out of the 20,337 investigated ended in conviction. The measure of success obtained is 59 per cent. as against 56 per cent. in 1905. The percentages of cases convicted to cases tried remains the same as in 1905, namely, 85 per cent. Detection in murder cases continued to be unsatisfactory, only 118 cases ending in conviction out of 326 cases dealt with. The value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 20,65,084 or Rs. 4,05,061 more than in 1905. This increase is mainly accounted for by an extraordinary large theft of Rs. 2,85,000 reported from Tharrawaddy. The recoveries total up to Rs. 4,36,705 or 21 per cent., which shows a further falling off of 3 per cent. Recoveries of stolen cattle, however, showed some improvement. Detection.

47. The year under report exhibits an increase of 205 persons prosecuted for badlivelihood under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code. In 1905, 3,013 persons were proceeded against and in 1906, 3,218. Of this number 2,491 as against 2,296 in 1905 were convicted either by being placed on security or being sent to prison. The special powers of sanctioning prosecutions conferred on District Superintendents of Police and Subdivisional Police Officers were widely utilised in all districts, though the proportion of the number of cases in which the prosecutions have been sanctioned by these officers is still low in the Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts. Convictions were obtained in 77 per cent. of the cases, which is a small improvement of one per cent. as compared with 1905. Preventive Provisions.

48. During the year under report 5,316 released convicts and 15 conditionally released convicts were brought on the Police registers, bringing up the totals of released and conditionally released convicts to 28,311 and 70, respectively, or a grand total of 28,381. Of this number, 3,149 were expunged after the prescribed period of surveillance as they were leading honest lives, and the names of 1,461 were struck off owing to death or emigration, leaving a balance of 23,772 on the registers. The number of "untraceables," *viz.*, 4,163, though less than at the close of 1905, is still very large and every effort is being made to reduce the number. The beat patrol system has been made more elastic, revision being undertaken on the lines of increasing the number of visits to villages with bad reputations and to those containing released criminals, and reducing the number of visits to unimportant and non-criminal villages. Revision on these lines has tended to make the surveillance over registered criminals more real and effective. The returns for the year show that a total of 2,788 old offenders were identified by the Police, being a decrease of 269 as compared with the figures for 1905. The total of 2,788 identifications is made up of 1,273 for one previous conviction, 732 for two previous convictions, 387 for three previous convictions and 396 for four or more previous convictions. The rules relating to the collection and Surveillance and identification.

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recording of prisoners' finger prints were given effect to during the year under report. Two thousand and forty references were made to the Central Bureau to trace previous convictions, out of which 539 or 26 per cent. proved successful. This is a small advance on the 21 per cent. of success recorded in 1905.

Railway Police.

49. The sanctioned strength of the Railway Police force was increased by the appointment of 3 Sergeants to a total of 375 officers and men and a number of Sergeants and Head constables were converted into Sub-Inspectors in accordance with the orders on the Police Commission Report. The cost of the force rose from 1·10 to 1·25 lakhs. The number of true cognizable cases dealt with, 968, was almost the same as in the previous year while the convictions obtained show a slight falling off. There were 28 true cases of thefts from trains, of which 14 ended in conviction. Only four of the cases were from 1st and 2nd class carriages and this small number as compared with the figures for the previous year is attributed to the safe-guarding of compartments with bolts. There were 36 thefts from wagons and 22 convictions. Out of 18 true cases of house-breaking, in which theft was the motive, only one single case ended in conviction.

Military Police.

50. The actual strength of the Military Police on the 1st January 1907 was 15,620 officers and men or 325 below sanctioned strength. The force continued to be divided into 13 battalions officered by 53 British officers, namely, 12 Commandants with 35 Assistant Commandants and two Adjutants with four Assistant Adjutants. The cost of the Military Police rose slightly from 53·40 to 54·48 lakhs. The number of men departmentally punished shows a decline as compared with the figures of 1905. There was a slight decrease in the number of desertions. The discipline of the force was good, and the relations of the men with the people were satisfactory. The percentage of casualties from natural causes to average strength shows a slight decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year. The percentage of admissions to hospital remained about the same. One thousand and eighty recruits were enlisted during the year, of whom 83 were Karens, 22 Shans, 81 Kachins and the remainder natives of India, as against 929 recruits enlisted in 1905. Recruiting was carried on in the same manner as before. The restriction as to the maximum standard of height in the case of Sikhs is stated to have caused some difficulty in recruiting. As regards all other classes men of good stamp were generally obtainable in sufficient number. All battalions were exercised with the Martini-Henry Rifle and musketry practice was generally good. The condition of Military Police buildings at the headquarters of battalions and at outposts was satisfactory. During the year there were seven cases of escape from Military Police custody as against four in 1905. A bad case of escape was that of a deserter of the 90th Punjabis from Military Police custody at Mogôk.

Punitive Police.

51. Three detachments of punitive police were quartered for varying periods on certain villages situated in the Hanthawaddy, Prome and Yamèthin Districts respectively. In the case of the first two districts the villages were concerned in extensive cattle thefts and the villages punished in the Yamèthin District were guilty of systematically harbouring a gang of dacoits. The cost of the police levied on the villages concerned amounted to about Rs. 1,600 and Rs. 1,400, respectively, in the cases of the Hanthawaddy and Prome villages and to Rs. 5,200 in the case of Yamèthin.

Village Administration.

52. There were 18,035 village headmen in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 18,315 in the previous year. A third of the decrease is due to the exclusion of the villages of the Möng Mit State from the Ruby Mines District. A large decrease of 86 in the number of headmen in the Lower Chindwin District is accounted for by the breaking up of 13 circles and the arrangement of the villages composing them in groups under independent headmen. The application of sections 2 to 13 of the Village Act to the Salween District increased the number of headmen in the Tenasserim Division. The number of headmen in charge of circles continued steadily to decrease and fell from 675 to 636. The

inclusion of the Salween District entailed an addition of 6 to the total number, so that the real decrease is 45. Disintegration was most rapid in the Sagaing Division, where 17 circles were split up, the Meiktila Division coming next with 6. Progress was made during the year in the work of defining and demarcating village boundaries and issuing maps to headmen. There was an increase of 5, from 632 to 637, in the number of headmen exercising special criminal powers and of 11, from 863 to 874, in the number of those exercising special civil powers. Fines inflicted by headmen amounted to Rs. 1,30,106, as against Rs. 1,52,448 in 1905. Except in the Meiktila and Arakan Divisions the decrease was general. It was largest in the Pegu and Tenasserim Divisions. The number of revisions of headmen's orders fell from 10,707 to 9,069. It is said that many cases which have been examined do not find a place in the returns. As in former years there was a general consensus of opinion that the judicial work of headmen is, on the whole, satisfactory. The work done by village headmen in the assessment and collection of revenue is generally commended and the number of cases in which it has been necessary to punish headmen for misappropriation or fraudulent alterations and omissions in assessment rolls and tax tickets remained small. Headmen were again reported to be generally apathetic as regards excise and opium cases. It is admitted that their assistance is given when required, but they do not endeavour to detect cases by themselves, and they tolerate breaches of the law not brought to their notice by an excise or police officer. The reports are almost unanimous in acknowledging the invaluable assistance rendered by headmen to the police in the detection of crime. The work done by headmen in the collection of vital statistics and with respect to agriculture and famine is satisfactory. In Myingyan scarcity was averted by their efforts in encouraging the cultivation of ground-nuts. In some places the rules regarding the treatment of cattle disease are not yet understood. Sanitation has been improved in many instances through fear of plague, and for the most part the reports on this point are more satisfactory than usual. Three hundred and thirty-two headmen were removed or dismissed, 74 suspended, and 945 fined, as against 316, 37, and 965, respectively, in 1905. The number rewarded rose from 713 to 800, a satisfactory increase taking place in the Tenasserim Division, where the practice of presenting rewards at a public durbar was introduced. In the Irrawaddy Division the practice of holding Divisional Durbars was continued throughout the year, with great success. The number of villages fined otherwise than under the Track Law was 229 against 233 in 1905. An outbreak of crime in Toungoo caused an increase in the number of fines in the Tenasserim Division. The large increase in the Sagaing Division is due to villages in the Sagaing and Shwebo Districts having been fined for suppressing evidence in cases where telegraph insulators were broken and other wanton damage was caused to Government property. The increase in the Meiktila Division appears to be mostly due to the strict enforcement of fencing in the Yamèthin District. The result of the efforts made in the Pegu and Tharrawaddy Districts to induce villagers to defend themselves against dacoits has been disappointing. On the other hand, two conspicuous instances of bravery in attacking dacoits armed with firearms occurred in the Amherst District and it is reported that the experiment of arming villagers with cross-bows in that district and in the Thatôn District has been attended with success. The decrease which occurred in 1905 in the number of villages fined under the Track Law was maintained. During the year there were seven cases in which persons were ordered to remove from their villages to some other locality under the Village Act or Regulation, of which four occurred in the Pegu Division. A notorious cattle thief was sent from Pegu to Mergui and an organiser of elephant thefts was removed to Toungoo from the Siamese border of the Amherst District.

Rangoon Town Police.

53. The Police Force in Rangoon Town continued to be administered separately from the force in the rest of the Province. Progress was made in carrying out the reforms sanctioned by the Government of India and His Majesty's Secretary of State in consequence of the recommendations of the Police Commission, and since the close of the year all these measures of reform have

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been carried into effect. During the year the Commisssioner's status was assimilated to that of a Deputy Inspector-General. The Government of India have accepted the Lieutenant-Governor's recommendation that the Commissioner should continue to be directly under the Local Government and that the Rangoon police should not be merged into the general police force of the Province. On the 1st January 1907 the sanctioned strength of the Town Police was 945 officers and men, 8 more than in the previous year, and the actual force was 10 below strength. The total cost amounted to Rs. 4,07,891, an increase of Rs. 46,095. The conduct of the force was better than in the preceding year. There was a substantial decrease from 383 to 320 in the number of departmental punishments; dismissals and removals fell from 31 to 26 and only two of the force were convicted by Magistrates, as against 10 in the year 1905. There was also a satisfactory increase in the number of rewards given for good conduct. The decrease of about 4,000 (from 13,735 to 9,776) in the number of cognisable cases is entirely due to the treatment of cases under section 41 of the Rangoon Police Act as non-cognizable. Offences under the Indian Penal Code increased by 206 cases. The increase is almost accounted for by the increase in the number of true cases of thefts reported from 856 to 1,040 or by 21 per cent. The number of robberies, though not in itself large, has increased every year since 1904. Thefts have increased annually since 1903; but the increase in the year under review was abnormal. This increase of thefts and robberies is serious and the attention of the Commissioner has been drawn to the matter. The improvement as regards house-breaking cases anticipated in 1905 has taken place, though the number of these cases was greater than in 1903 or 1904. The increase in the number of cases under the Excise and Opium Acts is to be attributed to the activity of the Excise Department and of the Police. The percentage of convictions to cases investigated, a valuable criterion of police work, was lower than the low percentage of the previous year. At the same time, the percentage of convictions to cases brought to trial was high. The deduction is that while detection is susceptible of much improvement, cases taken into Court are properly investigated and prosecuted. The percentage of convictions in Sessions trials was reasonably high, amounting to 80 per cent. The failure of detection in murder cases and in cases of serious offences against the person is noticeable. Unfortunately there are practical difficulties, which appear to be insuperable, in the way of making unlawful the possession or carrying of large clasp-knives so often used in cases of murder or serious hurt. Although the number of habitual criminals confined in jail increased, the anticipation expressed by the Commissioner in his Report for the year 1905 that crime would as a consequence diminish has not been fulfilled. The number of absconding criminals proclaimed continued to increase, but there was a considerable decline in the number arrested during the year. The Rangoon Police Act has now been amended so as to enable the police to arrest persons committing offences under section 41 of the Act whose names and addresses cannot be ascertained immediately; and a provision has been enacted increasing the stringency of the law against begging. These measures will enable the police to deal more effectively with criminals found loitering in suspicious circumstances, and will, it is anticipated, check to some extent the immigration from India of the necessitous and undesirable idlers who in the past have resorted in large numbers to Burma.

Criminal Justice.

Courts.

54. The administration of Criminal Justice in the Province was in the hands of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, assisted by 249 Judges and Magistrates and 25 Benches of Honorary Magistrates and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, who had under his control 193 Judges and Magistrates and six Benches. There was a total increase of 22 Judges and Magistrates and of three Benches, most of the additional officers being absorbed in Lower Burma. If Benches are left out of account 131 Europeans and 316 Natives acted as Judges and Magistrates as compared with 127 Europeans and 298 Natives in 1905.

55. The number of offences reported during the year 1906 (90,804) was considerably below the figure of the previous year (93,310). The improvement was confined to Lower Burma, there being a normal rise of 415 cases in Upper Burma An examination of the Lower Burma figures shows, however, that there was very little change in the total number of serious offences. The decrease was confined to nine districts and is almost entirely accounted for by a falling off of 3,745, 853 and 649 cases respectively under the Police, Vaccination and Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Acts in Rangoon, although offences under the Municipal Acts increased at the same time by 1,700. Variations under the head of cognizable crime have already been commented on in paragraph 45. Out of the total offences reported 88,071 cases were brought to trial before the Courts and 78,377 were returned as true. The percentage in each case was much the same as in 1905. Eighty-nine thousand three hundred and thirty-seven persons were convicted out of 154,318 under trial during the year. In 1905 the corresponding figures were 92,323 and 155,994 so that the proportion of convictions fell off somewhat. The number of complaints dismissed under sections 203 and 204 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and of cases dealt with under section 562 increased to a satisfactory extent in Lower Burma, but fell off slightly in Upper Burma. Six thousand five hundred and seven persons were under trial at the end of the year, the rise of over 600 persons being shared by both sections of the Province. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Offences.

56. The number of cases disposed of during the year fell from 88,713 to 86,858. Only 21,336 cases were tried by Benches of Honorary Magistrates against 25,574. The percentage of convictions was practically the same in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma, while the average duration of each case remained unchanged in Upper Burma at 9 days and rose from 11 to 12 days in Lower Burma. The proportion of cases tried summarily was 40 per cent. in Lower Burma and 25 per cent. in Upper Burma as compared with percentages of 44 and 24 in 1905. In Sessions cases 694 persons were tried with assessors in Lower Burma and 10 in Upper Burma and 127 were tried by jury in Lower Burma. As usual the Judge differed from the assessors in a large number of cases. More cases were dealt with by Sessions Judges during the year. The percentage of convictions in Sessions cases improved in Lower Burma and fell off in Upper Burma. Eighty-five cases were committed to the Chief Court as compared with 53 in 1905, while references for confirmation of death sentences declined from 96 to 80. Disposal of cases.

57. Fines were inflicted on 67,890 persons, the total being 4,062 less than that of 1905 owing mainly to the smaller number of prosecutions under special and local laws in Rangoon. On the other hand the average fine was higher in Lower Burma and the total amount of the fines imposed rose considerably from 7·78 to 8·16 lakhs. Three thousand one hundred and eighty-five persons were sentenced to be whipped. This figure represents an increase of 266 persons and is equal to a percentage of 28·7 of the total number of cases in which whipping might legally have been inflicted as compared with 26·7 per cent. in the previous year. The amount of compensation paid to complainants remained practically the same. Death sentences numbered 87 against 80 and sentences of transportation and of rigorous imprisonment were more numerous. An unsatisfactory feature of the reports is the proportionate increase, especially noticeable in Lower Burma, in sentences of simple imprisonment and imprisonment for short periods and in sentences of whipping of ten stripes or less. Eighteen boys, three more than in 1905, were sent to a Reformatory school and there was a substantial improvement in the number of first offenders released under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Steps were taken by the Chief Court with a view to encouraging applications for the conferment of powers under this section on 2nd class Magistrates in outlying townships. Punishments.

58. The number of regular appeals disposed of during the year rose from 7,212 to 7,333, the increase being confined to Lower Burma. The percentage of Appeals.

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sentences confirmed, 59·5 in Upper Burma and 69·4 in Lower Burma, did not differ much from the figures of the previous year. The appellate work of the Chief Court continues to increase in volume. The Local Government appealed to the Chief Court against sentences of acquittal in the case of ten persons and was successful as regards six out of the ten. In Upper Burma one case involving 23 persons was appealed to the Judicial Commissioner with the result that a new trial was ordered. Sentences were enhanced on appeal in only three cases, all in Upper Burma. The number of appeals pending trial at the end of the year diminished to some extent in both sections of the Province and the average duration fell from 18 and 14 to 17 and 13 days respectively in Lower and Upper Burma.

Revision.

59. Inspection and revision continued to receive the special attention of Judges and Magistrates. In this way a very large portion of the work of subordinate Magistrates comes under observation and opportunities of guidance and correction as well as means of preventing and remedying injustice are afforded. The total number of persons whose cases were dealt with in revision increased from 26,623 to 30,889, the expansion being shared by Upper and Lower Burma. The original sentence was confirmed in 22,898 cases, reduced or altered in 320, and reversed in 1,137. Interferences were proportionately rather more numerous than in the previous year.

Prisons.

Accommodation.

60. The closing of the District Jail at Pakôkku, the opening of a new jail for 100 prisoners at Mogôk and the addition of 12 cells to the Akyab Prison left the Province with 6 Central and 25 District jails providing accommodation for 15,322 prisoners as compared with 15,284 during the year 1905. The daily average population was 13,370, but this number was much below the corresponding figure at the end of the year (14,129), which may or may not have been the maximum. It must also be remembered that the whole accommodation is not interchangeable for all classes of prisoners and cannot always be utilized. The available accommodation is not therefore much in excess of existing requirements and no considerable reduction is possible. For this reason the proposal to close the Rangoon Jail has been postponed. There is little doubt that at some future date the Rangoon Jail will have to be moved, but the necessity of providing accommodation elsewhere in place of it and the expense involved render it impo sible to undertake the removal at present. As it is, limitations of space in the jails of the Province render it difficult to provide for the effective separation of juvenile from adult convicts and of habitual offenders from casual prisoners. Both these matters have received attention. Special enquiry has been made into the treatment of juvenile prisoners, and there appears to be no doubt that the existing arrangements for their accommodation, are in need of improvement. The officiating Inspector-General of Prisons recommended the construction of a special jail where youthful offenders only would be confined, and where juveniles of Class A and Class B could be more effectively kept apart from one another than is the case at present. This proposal has been accepted in principle and the Meiktila Jail has been set apart for the exclusive confinement of juveniles of both classes. A proposal to construct a separate civil jail in Rangoon to relieve the present over-crowding of civil prisoners in the Rangoon Central Jail has been approved. The experiment of placing habitual prisoners in central jails under the charge of special convicts of their own class instead of under casual prisoners employed as convict officers has been tried not only as a means of maintaining discipline but in order to prevent the association of casual and habitual offenders. The experiment is reported to have proved satisfactory, but it is doubtful whether the system is consistent with the orders prohibiting the employment of habituals as prison officers.

Prisoners.

61. The number of prisoners received into jails during the year showed an increase over the total of the previous year under all classes. The year opened with a total population of 13,228 and closed with a population of 14,129. The

number of prisoners received by direct committal and by transfer was 35,674 compared with 34,123, and the number discharged from all causes totalled 34,773 against 33,072 in 1905. The total daily average rose from 12,637 to 13,370, which is the highest daily average on record since 1898 when the daily average population amounted to 12,672. Releases under the ordinary remission rules rose from 4,694 in 1905 to 4,765 in 1906. The number of reconvicted prisoners was 4,420 against 4,167 in 1905 and the ratio per cent. to the total number of convicts admitted was 22·94 against 22·87 in the previous year. The Bassein Jail again had the highest ratio, *viz*, 37·87. The number of youthful offenders under 15 years of age committed to jail was 39, of whom 11 had been previously convicted against 49 and 9 respectively in 1905.

Discipline.

62. In spite of the increase in the daily average number of convicts from 11,951 to 12,606, the number of prison offences declined from 44,916 to 42,109. Seventeen out of the total number were dealt with by criminal courts and the rest by Jail Superintendents. In the previous year 25 offences came before Magistrates. A case of serious assault occurred at the Mônywa Jail on the 21st December, when a convict night-watchman was struck on the head with a turmeric pounder by a prisoner belonging to the A class and undergoing a sentence of three months' rigorous imprisonment. The injury proved fatal almost instantaneously. The Sessions Judge, Sagaing Division, who tried the case, sentenced the culprit to death, but the sentence was commuted on appeal to transportation for life. The reduction in the number of punishments was general under the several forms of punishment with the exception of punishments "not classified" and "fetters and hand-cuffing behind or to a staple." It is noteworthy that the punishment of penal diet with and without solitary confinement fell from 6,803 to 2,547. The ratio of all punishments to average population fell from 375·83 to 334·04. Of the total number (42,109) of offences committed by all classes during the year 22,484 were committed by habituals, showing that though the habitual class in jail during the year represented only 37·24 per cent. of the average population, about 53·39 per cent. of the punishments were inflicted on them. From these figures it is clear that the chief offenders against discipline are the habituals, notwithstanding their greater acquaintance with jail rules. The principle that habituals should be kept apart from casuals is fully recognized and every endeavour is made to carry it out to the utmost limit. The total number of floggings decreased from 160 in 1905 to 129 in 1906. The number of punishments inflicted on convict officers, who averaged 2,403 during the year, was 11,226 or 4·7 punishments per man as compared with 12,986 or 5·6 per man in 1905. The special privileges allowed to convict officers as an experimental measure have, on the whole, been found to work satisfactorily. There were twelve escapes altogether six from inside the jail and six from outside. Of prisoners who escaped 11 were recaptured during the year.

Financial.

63. The gross cost of upkeep of the jails increased from Rs. 7,03,946 to Rs. 8,06,500. The increase of Rs. 1,02,554 was chiefly due (1) to the rise in the jail population, (2) to the improved rates of pay sanctioned for the jailor staff, (3) to the expenses consequent on the opening of a new jail at Mogôk, (4) to the increased stocks of rations in hand at the end of the year and (5) to the high rates paid for dietary articles, especially paddy and *pègya*. Deducting the cash earnings of prisoners from the gross cost of maintenance, the net cost of the prison administration was Rs. 6,00,732 against Rs. 4,96,250 or Rs. 44-15-0 per head of strength against Rs. 39-4-0 in the previous year. The manufacture profits fell from Rs. 2,07,696 to Rs. 2,05,768. By the employment of convict labour in the execution of "jail works and repairs" a saving of Rs. 21,086 accrued to Government during 1906. The profits of the Jail Branch Press, which increased from Rs. 1,22,498 to Rs. 1,61,050 are not included in the total earnings. The total estimated value of vegetables produced from jail gardens was Rs. 78,647 as compared with Rs. 71,972 in the previous year. The value of paddy, dhâl, *pègya*, condiments and tamarind, obtained from jail farms was Rs. 25,355 as compared with Rs. 24,509 in 1905.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Vital.

64. The health of the prison population showed a decided improvement during the year under review. In spite of the fact that the daily average number in confinement rose from 12,637 to 13,370, the ratio per mille of average strength as regards admissions to hospital fell from 320·33 to 279·43, of the daily average number of sick from 16·62 to 15·78 and of deaths from all causes from 17·01 to 14·81 as compared with 1905. These are the best results obtained during the past fifteen years. The ratio per cent. of opium consumers admitted into jail increased from 11·57 to 14·17. Bhamo and Kyaukpyu again show the highest percentages, namely, 72·22 and 39·94, respectively. Seventeen per cent. of the total mortality was amongst opium consumers.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

65. The administration of Civil Justice during the year 1906 continued to be under the control of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, with four Judges and of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma. In Lower Burma there were 6 Divisional and 21 District Courts and in Upper Burma 4 of the former and 16 of the latter. Each district is divided into Civil subdivisions and Civil townships. The number of District Courts and Courts of higher grade remained unchanged, while there was a net increase of two Courts of lower grade in Lower Burma and a decrease of one in Upper Burma. One hundred and four Europeans and 234 Natives were employed as Judges at the close of the year as compared with 95 and 239 in the previous year. The increase in the number of Europeans is mainly accounted for by the system recently adopted of posting junior Assistant Commissioners to the additional charge of Township Courts as part of their training. In the case of Sessions and Divisional Courts the most important change effected in the year was the re-distribution of work between the Sessions Judges of Bassein and Prome. The arrangement by which the jurisdiction of the Sessions Judge of the Prome Division now includes the Thayetmyo District has resulted in that officer being heavily overburdened with work, and cannot be regarded as a permanent settlement of the difficulty. To afford the necessary relief, proposals have been laid before the Government of India for the appointment of another Divisional and Sessions Judge. The aggregate receipts of all Courts, Civil, Criminal and Revenue, amounted to Rs. 28,60,436 and the aggregate charges to Rs. 45,12,073. Separate figures are no longer furnished for each class of Courts. So far as corresponding figures for 1905 can be obtained by addition of those shown in the Civil and Criminal statements, the receipts, Rs. 25,62,020, are about 3 lakhs less than those for 1906, while the charges, Rs. 33,10,202, are more than 12 lakhs less. These large differences are, no doubt, due partly to the increased accuracy of the new system of calculation. It seems probable that the figures for charges on account of buildings, stationery and printing were very imperfect under the old system. At the same time a considerable increase in the total charges was no doubt due to the increased number of Judicial officers in 1906.

Volume and classification of litigation.

66. There was a normal increase from 61,483 to 63,622 in the number of suits instituted in Lower Burma and in Upper Burma a more noticeable expansion of litigation (24,780 suits against 21,488). The rise in the number of suits, which was most marked in the Tharrawaddy District and throughout the dry zone of Upper Burma, came mainly under the head of suits for money or moveable property, the total of which rose from 75,644 to 80,743 and represented in the year of report as in the previous year over 91 per cent. of the cases which came before the Courts. Township Courts in both sections of the Province and Subdivisional Courts in Lower Burma were responsible for the bulk of the increased work. The aggregate value of suits showed a very substantial increase from 181 to 225 lakhs, mainly in the various classes of Courts in Lower Burma, other than Small Cause Courts.

Disposal of cases.

67. The number of regular civil suits decided during 1906 was 88,344 as compared with 81,271 in 1905. Of these only 22,006, against 21,234, were contested. At the close of the year 8,960 cases were pending, 600 more than at the

end of 1905, and the average duration of cases in Lower Burma was greater. The number of cases pending in the Chief Court and the average duration of cases rose considerably. To relieve congestion on the original side of the Chief Court an additional Judge was sanctioned for six months, and proposals for the constitution of a City Court are under consideration. Miscellaneous cases, which in the Subordinate Courts consist chiefly of applications for removal of attachment and in District Courts of applications for probate and for succession certificates rose in number from 10,758 to 11,682. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

68. The total number of applications for execution of decrees rose by 8,026 to 53,535 and the amount realised also increased by 3½ lakhs to nearly 27 lakhs. The rise in the number of applications was common to both sections of the Province, while the increase in the amount realised was almost entirely confined to Lower Burma. Twenty-one thousand six hundred and twenty-four applications or 48 per cent. of the total were wholly infructuous as compared with 44 per cent. in 1905. Imprisonments of judgment debtors increased in Lower Burma, but declined somewhat in Upper Burma, and property of the debtor was sold in 6,218 cases against 5,128. The large increase in the number of applications for attachment before judgment has attracted the attention of Government. Execution of decrees.

69. Five hundred and sixty-five applications were made to the Courts under the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure relating to insolvency as compared with 409 in 1905, and 114 were pending at the end of the year. Less than Rs. 4,000 were realised from the assets of insolvents. Discharges in 1906 (64) were much more numerous than in the previous year (15). Insolvency proceedings.

70. The number of regular appeals decided during the year (4,227) exceeded the total of the previous year by 293. The average duration of cases was greater in Lower Burma and less in Upper Burma. Appellants were wholly or partly successful in 36 per cent. of the cases decided as compared with 37 per cent. in 1905. Appeals.

Registration.

71. The registration of deeds continued to be governed during the year 1906 by the provisions of the Indian Registration Act, 1877, in Lower Burma and in Upper Burma by the Upper Burma Registration Regulation, 1897. No changes were made in the Law or in the Statutory Rules. Proposals for the extension to Upper Burma of the Lower Burma Act were not accepted by the Local Government and revised draft rules have been framed under section 8 of the Regulation, which are designed to render the working of Registration Offices in Upper Burma independent of the Indian Registration Act and of the rules made thereunder. A new Registration Office was opened at Buthidaung in the Akyab District from the 23rd July 1906, and the offices at Payagale in the Pegu District and at Sinbaungwè in the Thayetmyo District were abolished during the year. Extensive revisions in District Registration establishments were effected in the period under report; in some instances these revisions led to increased and in others to decreased cost. Arrangements were made for the recurrent entertainment of temporary clerks at busy seasons. The system of appointing pensioners or non-officials to be Joint Sub-registrars was tried during the year, but the result of the experiment has not been altogether encouraging. General.

72. The total number of documents compulsorily registered in Lower Burma rose by 4,400 and the aggregate value by Rs. 1,14,12,977, the percentages of increase being approximately 12 and 17 respectively. The number of sales affecting immoveable property of the value of Rs. 100 or upwards rose by 2,815 or nearly 21 per cent., the value rising correspondingly by Rs. 66,27,660 or a little over 23 per cent. The figures for mortgages showed a smaller advance, the percentages of increase in transactions and value being 7 and 10 per cent. respectively. A large proportion of this expansion was contributed by Rangoon, where a number of unusually important transactions were registered. In the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions the increase in the volume of registration transactions is mainly attributed Deeds registered.

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to the extension of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, the provisions of which have gradually become known. There was a slight increase in the number of compulsory registrations in Upper Burma and a corresponding increase in value. The aggregate value of immoveable property in Upper Burma affected by instruments of sale or exchange of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards and by mortgages rose by Rs. 2,31,993 or a little over 5 per cent. The aggregate value of moveable property affected by documents registered in Book 4 in Upper Burma more than doubled during the year under report, while the corresponding figures for Lower Burma remained practically stationary, though the number of transactions slightly increased.

Income and expenditure.

73. The total income of the Registration Department for the year 1906 amounted to Rs. 2,13,087, or Rs. 20,169 more than in 1905, while expenditure rose by Rs. 5,406 to Rs. 74,161. The income from fees increased by rather more than eleven per cent. in Lower Burma and by four per cent. in Upper Burma. Expenditure increased by Rs. 4,699 or rather more than eight per cent. in Lower Burma and by Rs. 707 or a little over six per cent. in Upper Burma. In the Lower Province the income was about three times and in Upper Burma twice the expenditure incurred, the difference between income and expenditure for the whole of Burma being Rs. 1,38,926. It must, however, be borne in mind that no share of the pay of Township Officers, who perform the greater part of the work of Registration, is included in the figures of expenditure.

Local Boards Administration.

74. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in paragraph 164.

Municipal Administration.

Rangoon Municipality.

75. During the year 1906-07 the Rangoon Municipal Committee held 12 general and special meetings and the average percentage of attendance at each meeting was 66. On the 29th November 1906, a general election was held. The allotted number of members to be elected by the European community is five, but only four stood for election. The vacancy was filled by the Local Government. The incidence of taxation and income per head of population in 1906-07 was Rs. 8-9-11 and Rs. 13-9-3, respectively, as compared with Rs. 7-8-4 and Rs. 11-12-8 in 1905-06. On the 31st March 1907, the total monthly rental value of buildings within the Municipality, exclusive of Port Trust, Railway and Government property, aggregated Rs. 8,05,552, or Rs. 45,548 in excess of the total monthly rental value on the 31st March 1906. Assessments on Government Railway and Port Trust property were revised and largely enhanced, and the total demand during the year on account of Municipal taxes rose from Rs. 17,04,900 to Rs. 21,51,886. Measures were taken during the year to place Municipal finances on a better footing. The rates of the general Municipal tax and of the water and scavenging taxes were raised and the expenditure was kept down as low as was compatible with efficiency. The question of revising the town assessments on a scientific basis was also considered, and the Committee, at the time, was of opinion that it would be necessary to employ the services of an expert to devise a modern system of assessments which would not only provide for a proper valuation of the different kinds of premises, but would ensure the automatic growth of Municipal revenue in proportion to the increasing prosperity of the town. It was, however, ultimately decided not to engage the services of an expert Assessor. During the year the fire brigade attended 32 fires and the total value of property destroyed was estimated at Rs. 2,83,264, as against Rs. 10,18,310 in 1905-06. Street-lighting with oil was carried out by contract as in previous years. Progress is being made by the Electric Tramway and Supply Company in carrying out preliminary works preparatory to the introduction of street-lighting by electricity and it is expected that a start will be made in this direction at the close of 1907 or

early in 1908. The Hlawga water-works were taken over from Government on the 1st July 1906. Up to the 31st March 1907, the total expenditure incurred on these works amounted to Rs. 47,24,283. A supplementary estimate for Rs. 1,42,662 was sanctioned for special repairs, towards which Rs. 58,719 were contributed by Government from Provincial funds. The works connected with the extension and improvement of the sewerage system were started on the 3rd April 1906 under Mr. Ault's supervision, and on the 31st March 1907 the whole of the air and sewage mains were completed east and west of Judah Ezekiel Street, with the exception of the out-fall end of the 36-inch sewage main and the 7-inch air main along Merchant Street, east of Judah Ezekiel street. The capital outlay on drainage works exceeded two lakhs. Proposals for establishing new Municpal markets in Rangoon were under consideration during the year. Considerable attention was devoted to the important question of the construction and repair of roads and various proposals and experiments were considered and tried. Towards the close of the year Government made a contribution of one lakh of rupees towards plague expenditure and a grant of Rs. 58,719 towards the outlay incurred on account of the Hlawga water-works.

Minor Municipalities and their Committees.

76. The number of minor municipalities in the Province was raised to 43 by the grant of full municipal status to the notified area of Wakèma in the Irrawaddy Division. Including Rangoon there were 31 Municipalities in Lower Burma, Irrawaddy Division heading the list with 12, and 13 in Upper Burma. In addition to the municipalities proper there were 16 notified areas in which certain provisions of the Municipal Act were in force. Municipal affairs were managed by Committees comprising 537 members, of whom 71 (distributed over 8 municipalites) were elected by their fellow townsmen, 298 were nominated by the Commissioner or the Local Government, and the rest were members *ex-officio*. The list of members include 190 officials and 145 Europeans. Owing to continued mismanagement of its affairs by the elected Committee at Moulmein the system of election was abolished for this Municipality and a new Committee was nominated by the Local Government. General elections took place in four towns. In Pegu all seats were keenly contested and in Mandalay there was keenness among certain classes. The Bassein and Toungoo rate-payers took little or no interest in their elections.

Minor Municipalities; taxation.

77. The average incidence per head of population of Municipal taxation in the 43 municipalities during the year rose slightly to Rs. 1-11-2 consequent on revision of assessments and levy of fresh imposts. The most important decrease was in Mandalay, where collections were backward owing to the prevalence of plague. In some cases fluctuations were apparent only, being due to changes in the period of collection of taxes and similar causes. The only important revision of assessment was in Moulmein, where increase of income exceeding Rs. 10,000 a year was obtained from one quarter of the town. Sampan taxes were imposed in Pyapôn and Kyaiklat, a conservancy tax in Mandalay and a covered area tax in Pyinmana, while the lighting tax in Kyaikto was extended to new areas. In more than one Upper Burma Municipality taxes under the Burma Municipal Act, 1898, were substituted for existing taxes under the Upper Burma Regulation.

Minor Municipalities; Public Health and Convenience.

78. Improvements in water-supply, drainage and conservancy are matters of urgent importance in almost every town in the Province, but the progress attained in carrying out the various schemes is not so rapid as might be desired. Owing to various delays the Akyab water-works, for which a loan of three lakhs was taken up, are not so far advanced as they should be, but it is expected that the project will be finished by the rains of 1908. A tube well is being constructed at Gyobingauk, but three wells constructed at Kyaiklat have all proved failures. The latest Municipal water-supply scheme at Mandalay was not accepted by the Sanitary Board and fresh projects are being prepared. Smaller schemes were in progress or under consideration for Thatôn, Pakôkku, Mônywa and Yamèthin. Some extensions of masonry drains were carried out at Prome and Bassein and drainage schemes for Pyapôn, Mandalay and Mônywa were in train. Henzada, Wakèma and Pakôkku

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had conservancy schemes in preparation. The prevalence of plague in many towns resulted in heavy work for Municipal officers and increased expenditure.

Military.

Strength of the garrison.

79. The total strength of the troops forming the Burma garrison at the end of March 1907 was 10,696 officers and men, of whom 4,389 were Europeans.

Military works.

80. The expenditure on Military works during the year rose from 10·51 to 14·05 lakhs, a total much in excess of the average outlay of recent years. Of this sum 8½ lakhs were spent on original works and nearly 2½ lakhs on repairs. At Maymyo the work of providing *pucca* barracks and other buildings for a full battalion of British Infantry was nearly finished, and the Native Mountain Battery lines were well advanced at an expenditure up to the end of the year of Rs. 90,000. Additional roads were also laid out and a water-supply scheme and septic tank were practically completed. Satisfactory progress was made with the construction of buildings for the accommodation of two companies of British Infantry on Mandalay Hill. The re-erection, at Rangoon, of old barracks, brought from Thayetmyo, for the accommodation of 300 Native Infantry was completed. The scheme for supplying drinking water to the whole of Rangoon Cantonment from artesian wells was carried into effect, and in addition to the projects mentioned many minor works were taken in hand at the various stations where troops are quartered.

Military (Volunteering).

81. There were six Volunteer Corps in Burma during the year of report: three of these, the Port Defence, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the Burma Railways Corps, have their headquarters in Rangoon; the Moulmein Volunteer Rifles and Artillery have their headquarters at Moulmein and the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles at Mandalay. During the year a new company was added to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the designation of the Mounted Company of the Corps was changed to the Rangoon Mounted Rifles. The total strength of the six Corps as shown by the rolls at the close of March 1907 was 2,474 adults, 282 cadets and 128 reservists, exceeding the figures of the previous year by 120 men. With 2,629 efficients exclusive of the reservists against 2,446 in 1905-06 the Corps taken together earned in capitation and other grants Rs. 1,05,272 or Rs. 5,112 more than in 1905-06. These figures do not include the 42 members of the South Andaman Rifle Corps, which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps and earned in grants Rs. 1,455.

Marine.

Light-houses and Light-ships.

82. The maintenance of the nine light-houses, the light-house tender "Ruby" and the four light-ships stationed off the coast of Burma during the year ending the 31st March 1907 cost Rs. 1,55,295, over Rs. 35,000 less than in the previous year. There were appreciable decreases in expenditure under the heads Establishment, oil, stores and contingencies and blue light composition. Receipts from light-dues fell by Rs. 68,353 to slightly over 4½ lakhs. Twenty-four cases of beri-beri occurred amongst the light-house staff, of which 3 were fatal. Monthly visits to the light-houses and light-ships were carried out by the Royal Indian Marine steamers "Mayo" and "Dalhousie." The nine light-houses with their subsidiary buildings were all maintained in good order. The dangerous rock off the pier head at Beacon Island was removed. Projects were in hand for improving the landings at Table Island, Double Island and at Alguada; also for a new light-house on Beacon Island. Improvements to ventilation were also undertaken. A Wigham light for Zallatung anchorage was indented for. Iron-screw pile beacons were put up in "Fells" Passage and "Celerity" Passage.

Port Administration, Rangoon.

83. The income of the Rangoon Port Trust, including debt account, but excluding loans was Rs. 26,03,314 against Rs. 23,75,336 in the previous year, there being an increase in ordinary revenue under the several heads, due to a general

expansion of trade. The expenditure, including debt accounts and works financed out of surplus revenue, decreased from Rs. 29,03,318 to Rs. 26,03,476. The ordinary expenditure exhibited a decrease of Rs. 2,77,138 as compared with 1905-06 which was mainly due to no payment having been made towards fire and marine insurance, depreciation and replacement and revenue reserve funds, and to no expenditure having been incurred on plague preventive measures. The estimated capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 68,46,334 and the actual Rs. 58,71,628, the saving being caused by the temporary postponement of the schemes for river training and for the provision of fixed moorings. The year closed with a credit balance of Rs. 10,37,160. During the year the Port Commissioners raised two 4 per cent. debenture loans, one of 11 lakhs and another of 40 lakhs. The average rate of tenders accepted was Rs. 98-8-5 for the former loan and Rs. 93-4-9 for the latter loan. The total debt at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 1,08,74,041. The Budget estimate provided Rs. 17,88,000 for capital expenditure on the new harbour works sanctioned in 1901, and the actual outlay was Rs. 17,48,999. Since the commencement of the works Rs. 66,05,035 have been expended out of sanctioned estimates of Rs. 88,99,424, and at the end of the year the works were nearing completion. During the year three additional sets of swinging moorings were laid down in the Pegu river. The steam buoy vessel "Goliath" arrived from England on the 13th July 1906, and has been a great acquisition to the Port Trust flotilla. The scheme for training the Rangoon River was much discussed during the year and two Committees sat on it. Shortly after the close of the year a project was finally adopted involving an estimated outlay of 125 lakhs. The question of dredging the channels at the mouth of the harbour was under consideration, but no definite conclusion was arrived at. A modified scheme of wharf extension was sanctioned by Government, but the Port Commissioners were not satisfied, and continued to press the Local Government to make over the control of the foreshore to them. With a view to providing more accommodation for the growing trade of the Port, 28·6 acres of land including 2,000 feet of foreshore were acquired at Botataung. The price of the land as fixed under the Land Acquisition Act amounted to nearly 36 lakhs. Proposals for acquiring land on the river bank at Kemmendine were also considered, and were carried into effect after the close of the year at a cost of over 5 lakhs.

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84. The 21 pilots of the Port of Rangoon earned for the Pilot Fund Rs. 2,82,423 or Rs. 15,974 more than in 1905-06, and for themselves Rs. 1,87,984, or Rs. 12,495 more. An addition of Rs. 5,000 brought the Depreciation Fund up to Rs. 20,000, while the closing balance of the Pilot Fund on the 31st March 1907 stood at Rs. 72,363. Four of the 21 pilots were special pilots, not available for general duty. They were the commanders of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers plying between Rangoon, Moulmein and Mergui and of the new Port Trust tug "Hlaing."

Pilot Service, Rangoon.

85. Receipts during 1906-07 of the six minor ports for which separate Port Funds are maintained, declined by Rs. 38,686 to Rs. 3,31,449, while the expenditure rose from Rs. 3,41,785 to Rs. 3,68,945. Port Officers appointed by Government continued to manage the Ports of Moulmein, Akyab and Bassein, where there are special pilot services consisting of eight, two and four pilots respectively, two of the eight at Moulmein being the Commanders of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers which ply thrice a week between that port and Rangoon. The expenditure of the Pilot Funds at the three ports, Rs. 94,161, exceeded the receipts by Rs. 4,213 and the closing balance fell to Rs. 19,944. The administration of the three remaining ports of Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu, none of which has a Pilot Fund, is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners of the districts bearing these names.

Minor Ports.

86. Four hundred and ninety-two steamers and 127 sailing vessels arrived in Burma from foreign countries during the year 1906-07. The number of arrivals was somewhat in excess of the figures of the previous year, but the total tonnage,

Commercial Marine.

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1,068,824 tons, was almost exactly the same. Of these vessels 379 steamers and 8 sailing ships with a tonnage of 889,382 tons arrived at Rangoon, the same comment being applicable to the figures. In the coasting trade of the Province there was a more substantial advance, for though arrivals of sailing vessels declined from 1,416 to 1,347 the number of steamers rose from 1,969 to 2,035 and tonnage from 2·14 to 2·45 million tons. One thousand and fifty-two or rather more than half the steamers were bound for Rangoon, while only 187 sailing ships had a like destination. Of the tonnage Rangoon accounted for 1·80 million tons. The size of steamers visiting Rangoon continued to increase, and no fewer than 416 vessels exceeding 4,000 tons entered the port. Two hundred and seventy-three vessels sailed under a foreign flag as against 171 in the previous year, the colours of Norway, Germany, Japan, Austria-Hungary and Holland being most prominent.

Commercial Marine:—Wrecks and casualties.

87. The schooner "Hoe Soon," of 79 tons register, was wrecked in the Bay of Bengal on the 23rd April 1906. The master and crew on finding that the ship was sinking put off on a raft and, after being knocked about for three hours in a rough sea, were picked up by the "Ramapoora," which plies between Rangoon and Moulmein. The Court of Enquiry which investigated the casualty came to the conclusion that the loss of the vessel was due to stress of weather. On the 20th September 1906 the British India Company's steamer "Palamcotta" collided with the pilot brig "Kyauktan" at the mouth of the Rangoon river. The Court of Enquiry found the master of the brig guilty of negligence in not having his lights correct and he was severely censured. Altogether during the year, in the Rangoon harbour, there were 29 accidents to vessels in charge of Assistant Harbour Masters or Pilots. In connection with these accidents eight Courts of Enquiry were held; one Pilot was reduced for a short period and two Assistant Harbour Masters were warned to be more careful in future.

Government Steamers and Launches.

88. The three Royal Indian Marine vessels "Irrawaddy," "Sladen" and "Bhamo" carried by river over twelve thousand troops and followers, with ammunition, horses and cattle, besides 7,739 tons of stores and 1 crore and 11¼ lakhs of specie. They earned Rs. 2,83,474, or a decrease of Rs. 24,765 as compared with the earnings for the year 1905-06, due in a measure to the vessels not being so fully employed as in the previous year. Nine new vessels were added to the Government flotilla, one was sold and one foundered, leaving at the end of the year 97 vessels of all descriptions, including 8 house-boats, 1 barge, 8 flats and 1 schooner. All the vessels were fully employed throughout the year. The total expenditure on th eup-keep of these vessels, including 4 per cent. interest on the balance of their cost, was Rs. 6,42,454, while they earned Rs. 4,26,815. Seventeen launches earned more than the cost of their up-keep, the profit on the working of three paddlers in Upper Burma amounting to over Rs. 38,000. One flat, one house-boat and two launches are under construction.

Marine works and surveys.

89. Landing stages were completed at Insein and at Sinbyu-in, on the Tavoy river, and one at Dedaye was well advanced. The wharf at Kyetsabyin was completed, and wharves Nos. 10 and 12 at Bassein were replaced by iron pontoon and swing-bridges at the cost of the port funds. The new godown north of Mission Street jetty at Moulmein was completed. A theodolite survey of the Pegu river on a 4-inch scale which was commenced in April 1906 was carried up the river for 11 miles. A survey of the Bassein creek on a scale of 6 inches to the nautical mile was also commenced during the year and is approaching completion. The Western Channel, the Spit Channel, the Middle Bank Channel, the Hmawun Lump, the DeSilva Shoal, the Liffey Reach and the Choki Lump tracks of the Rangoon river were periodically surveyed, and the Hastings and Monkey Point Channels were examined regularly every few days as a sudden and unaccountable shoaling took place in December 1906. The Royal Indian Marine steamer "Investigator" was engaged during the year in making a detailed survey of the Arakan coast from Nurbudda Shoal to Khwa, including the drawing up of a large scale plan of the whole of Andrew Bay. At the close of the year an area extending from 18° to 18° 22′ N. as far out as between 40 and 50 fathoms had been surveyed, and a 3-inch plan of Andrew Bay had also been completed.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Agricultural Department.

90. The creation of a separate Agricultural Department in Burma took effect from the 15th October 1906. The superior staff consists of a Director and a Deputy Director of Agriculture, an all-round Agriculturist to be Principal of the Agricultural College to be established at Mandalay, a Chemist and a Botanist. The scheme for the Department contemplates three main agricultural stations: one at Mandalay, the College Station under the charge of the Principal of the College: one at Hmawbi in the Hanthawaddy District, for the study of rice and other Lower Burma crops: and one in the dry zone of Upper Burma. These two last stations will be under the charge of the Deputy Director of Agriculture. The land for the first two named has already been acquired: the site for the third will be selected shortly by the Expert Staff in consultation. Meanwhile preliminary operations have been started on the farms at Mandalay and Hmawbi. Apart from his connection with the Agricultural College and the Veterinary Department, the main duty of the Director of Agriculture is to supervise the working of experimental farms, to promote by all possible means the improvement of old and the introduction of new staples, to popularize more productive or economical methods of cultivation and to combat the pests and diseases which injure agricultural produce and agricultural stock.

Agricultural stock and cattle disease.

91. The annual returns of agricultural stock show a moderate improvement under all heads except that the number of mules and buffalo calves has declined somewhat. There were altogether in the Province on the 30th June 1907 1⅛ million bulls and bullocks, 1¼ million cows and nearly a million calves, 750,000 buffaloes with 326,000 calves, 23,000 sheep, 128,000 goats, 55,000 horses and ponies and eighteen hundred mules. The health of cattle was on the whole good during the year. The number of deaths from contagious diseases fell from 111,770 to

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40,715. The improvement was common to all three diseases which find a place in the returns, the mortality for the year being distributed as follows :—rinderpest 33,106, foot-and-mouth disease 3,404, and anthrax (including other diseases classed as anthrax by the ordinary cultivator) 4,205. Pakôkku and Toungoo suffered severely from rinderpest with 7,000 and 5,000 deaths and there was a good deal of anthrax in Bassein, Myaungmya and Akyab. Neither of the last mentioned diseases was prevalent to any extent in Upper Burma. The number of inoculations against rinderpest declined from 6,335 to 3,617 owing to the less serious nature of the outbreaks. The rules regarding segregation appear to be generally well observed, but the villagers still require to be taught the value of inoculation.

Civil Veterinary Department.

92. In August 1906 an extensive re-organization of the Subordinate Staff of the Civil Veterinary Department was sanctioned by the Secretary of State. In place of 82 Veterinary Assistants on pay ranging from Rs. 30 to Rs. 60 whose total salaries amounted to Rs. 52,152 a year, the sanctioned scheme contemplates the ultimate appointment of five Deputy Superintendents divided into four grades carrying salaries of Rs. 500, Rs. 400, Rs. 300 and Rs. 200, of twelve Inspectors divided into three grades carrying salaries of Rs. 150, Rs. 125 and Rs. 100, and of one hundred and twenty Veterinary Assistants divided into four grades carrying salaries at the rate of Rs. 60, Rs. 50—2—60, Rs. 40—2—50 and Rs. 30—2—40 a month. The cost of 70 Veterinary Assistants, who will be employed in Lower Burma, will be met from the District Cess Fund, while the expenditure involved in the entertainment of 50 Veterinary Assistants, who will be employed in Upper Burma, will be borne by Provincial Revenues, to which the cost of the supervising staff of Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors will also be debited. The extra outlay involved in the whole scheme when in full operation will amount to Rs. 61,968 a year, of which Rs. 46,068 will be payable from Provincial Revenues and the remainder, Rs. 15,900, from local funds. The revised scale will be worked up to gradually as qualified candidates become available. On the 31st March 1907 seven Assistants had been promoted to be Inspectors, but serious difficulties were still experienced in the recruitment of Assistants and their number fell from 79 to 78. Steps are being taken towards the appointment of two Deputy Superintendents to begin with and of additional Inspectors. The total cost of the Department for the year was Rs. 1,47,037, nearly Rs. 8,000 more than in 1905-06. Of this amount Imperial funds provided Rs. 29,459, Provincial Rs. 78,191 and Local Rs. 39,387.

Pony and cattle breeding.

93. The four Government stallions standing at Tharrawaddy, Lashio and Thamakan covered 112 mares or 16 more than in the previous year. The two Deli stallions at Tharrawaddy covered 82 mares and the foals inspected are reported to be satisfactory. There are no Government bulls at stud in Burma and the only direct encouragement given by Government to cattle-breeders is by the holding of agricultural shows at which prizes and medals are given for the best cattle in the various classes. The only show of importance during the year was held at Bhamo. Out of 169 exhibits 71 buffaloes were entered and it was in this class alone that anything beyond mediocrity was attained. A small local show was held at Pindaya in the Southern Shan States.

Prices.

94. Harvest prices of paddy were abnormally high throughout the Province, in many markets all previous records were surpassed and it is said that in most districts the anticipation of large profits has induced the cultivators to trench on their food-stocks. The inflation of prices was mainly due to depleted stocks in Europe and to scarcity in Eastern Bengal. The average price ranged from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 2 per maund, against an approximate normal of Rs. 1-8-0. In Arakan prices were extremely high owing to the large export to Chittagong and the keen competition between the European and Native rice merchants at the export centre of Akyab, where prices rose from Rs. 95 to Rs. 200 per hundred baskets (9-gallon). In Hanthawaddy the prices per 100 baskets were Rs. 115 in January, Rs. 120 in February and Rs. 125 in March. In Pegu prices opened with Rs. 110 and rose to Rs. 130. In Tharrawaddy prices ruled high owing to

failure of crops in recent years; agriculturists realized good prices, but it was a bad year for speculators. In Prome prices were high owing to short crops. In Bassein there was a rise in the price of Rs. 22 per 100 baskets over last year due to competition between rice-millers; and in this district as in Hanthawaddy, Pyapôn, Amherst, Mandalay and elsewhere, the demand for the smaller rice mills which have been started in the districts by Native merchants has been a factor in causing higher prices. In Mandalay there was a general rise in prices notwithstanding a greater output, ascribed to the erection of additional local rice mills and a decreased export to Lower Burma in consequence. At the end of June about 25 per cent. of the estimated exportable surplus of the province was held over by speculators who awaited a further rise in prices before marketing their stocks. The prices of wheat were generally much higher than those of the previous year and also exceeded the normal standard. They were particularly high in Sagaing, amounting to Rs. 3-11-0 per maund, owing to a reduced outturn; the produce of the Sagaing District is almost entirely bought up by contractors for Jails and the Military Police. In Mandalay and Minbu, also, the prices were over Rs. 3 per maund. The prices of jowar considerably exceeded those of the previous year, being over Rs. 2 per maund at most centres, and Rs. 3-6-0 at Mandalay, Rs. 2-9-0 at Myingyan and Rs. 2-10-0 in Minbu. The average price of gram was about Rs. 2-8-0 per maund; in Minbu and Thayetmyo it was over Rs. 3; in Sagaing, where three-fourths of the crop finds its way down country, the price was Rs. 2-10-0. The market value of sessamum is steadily rising, owing partly to the diminution in the area under this crop, the peace of which is being taken by ground-nuts. The principal prices were Rs. 4-13-0 per maund at Myingyan, Rs. 4-10-0 at Sagaing and the Lower Chindwin, Rs. 4-6-0 at Yamèthin, Rs. 5-4-0 in Minbu, Rs. 3-12-0 in Meiktila, Rs. 4-3-0 in Shwebo, Rs. 6-2-0 in Mandalay and Rs. 5-13-0 in Thayetmyo. The prices of cotton at the chief markets were affected by the manipulation of the market by the principal buyers who had formed an effective combine, the price in Sagaing falling from Rs. 20 to Rs. 18 per 100 viss (365 lbs.). The price per maund for uncleaned and ginned cotton, respectively, was at Myingyan Rs. 4-11-0 and Rs. 16-11-0, at Sagaing Rs. 4-1-0 and Rs. 19-12-0, at Meiktila Rs. 4-8-0 and Rs. 15-12-0 and at Thayetmyo Rs. 4-12-0 and Rs. 14-10-0; in the Lower Chindwin the price of uncleaned cotton was Rs. 4-6-0.

Agricultural loans.

95. In the districts of Pegu and Thatôn there were no transactions in connection with agricultural advances, and in Kyaukpyu and Hanthawaddy there were no advances outstanding at the beginning of the official year. In all other districts there were such advances outstanding, amounting to Rs. 5,08,460, an increase of 30 per cent. on the previous year. Advances were made in almost every district amounting to Rs. 8,56,788, an increase of 27 per cent. There were no remissions. Collections amounted to Rs. 6,19,903, an increase of nearly 11 per cent. The balance outstanding was Rs. 7,45,345, an increase of over 46 per cent. The repayment of Rs. 61,490, or 4½ per cent. of the total amount advanced, was suspended during the year in 17 districts in amounts varying from Rs. 20 in the Upper Chindwin to Rs. 23,970 in Yamèthin. In all districts except ten, amounts varying from Rs. 65 in Katha to Rs. 58,695 in Hanthawaddy, the total being Rs. 1,67,363, more than double the figure of the previous year and over 12 per cent. of the total advanced, were overdue at the end of the year. Of interest, rather more was in arrears at the beginning of the year than at the end of 1905-06 and arrears together with the larger interest consequent on the larger loans, brought up the total amount of interest due to Rs. 57,031, an increase of over 22 per cent. No interest was remitted. The collections of interest showed an increase of Rs. 6,268 or nearly 15 per cent. The amount overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 9,552, an increase of 85 per cent. The total amount of principal and interest overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 1,76,915, nearly 2½ times as much as in 1905-06. The reasons given for advances vary in each district and there are many different opinions as to the popularity of the system. The questions whether village headmen receive commission for standing surety and whether they ought to get such commission was under enquiry. The Financial

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Commissioner has no doubt that headmen are generally paid and he does not propose to forbid the practice. Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act amounted to Rs. 3,250 during the year.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

96. During the fifteen months ending the 30th June 1907 a decided advance is noticeable in the work of the Co-operative Credit Societies. Their number increased from 23 to 40, of which 37 are Rural Societies, against 21 in the year 1905-06. The Urban Societies rose from 2 to 3, but these play a minor part in the scheme and Government is mainly interested in the success of the Rural Societies. In Lower Burma the Rural Societies grew from 10 to 16 and at the end of the year their members numbered 710 against 444 in the previous year. In Upper Burma the advance was more marked: there were 21 societies against 11 in 1905-06 and the membership was 1,215 against 922. The movement seems to have taken a specially strong hold in the Kyaukse District owing to the interest displayed in the work by the district officials and the intelligence of the people. Altogether Rs. 1,67,745 were disbursed as loans to members during the period under review, Rs. 17,275 were subscribed in shares, Rs. 1,600 were deposited by members and Rs. 29,900 by non-members. The interest received amounted to Rs. 12,591 and Rs. 10,745 were carried to the reserve funds. The most striking fact in the year's record is the confidence now displayed by the outside public in these societies. Whereas in 1905-06 the resources of the societies consisted entirely of subscriptions from members and the sums advanced by Government, which that year amounted to Rs. 29,210, in the period under review by far the most important item is the deposits made by non-members. Applications were made by the outside public to deposit 1½ lakhs of rupees, and a single bank was willing to finance the societies up to Rs. 50,000 in one year. Government loans were in fact restricted to Rs. 6,850 and the stage in which these societies depend on State aid is now clearly past. It seems plain that the view that there is no spare money in Burma, that local deposits are not forthcoming nor are to be expected, and that these societies must depend to a great extent on contributions by Government, has not been borne out by the facts. Experience has been the other way: local depositors have offered far more than the societies have been able to take. The special feature in the work of the year has been the establishment of sixteen societies on the Raiffeisen model. Previously all societies had been formed on the Schulze-Delitzsch plan. The former differ in various respects from the latter. They are managed entirely in the interests of the borrower, there are no dividends and members derive no benefit except the privilege of borrowing. Any surplus goes into a reserve fund which forms a very important feature of the organisation. Shares are non-existent or very low. No salaries or commissions are paid, the jurisdiction of each bank is more restricted, loans are made for longer terms and on personal security only. Schulze banks were intended for townsmen not of the poorest class, and there is some support for the view that institutions on the Raiffeisen plan are better suited to the requirements of an agricultural community. The societies on the new model deal with smaller sums than the Schulze Societies; but in the few months of their existence they had already obtained Rs. 14,400 as fixed deposits and they appear to utilise their money fully. So far as can be seen the new societies seem to have good prospects. It appears that the movement on the whole has had more success in the Upper than in the Lower Province. Of the societies previously formed the Registrar found that those in Upper Burma were the more successful, because they were more rural in character and because the Upper Burmans have a greater power of combination. The experience of the year seems to indicate that, so far at least as societies on the Raiffeisen model are concerned, the less wealthy districts of Upper Burma are more in need of attention. The Arakan Division has been excluded from the movement in the past, but steps are now being taken to ascertain whether the advantages of the co-operative movement cannot be extended to the cultivators there.

Protection from floods.

97. The construction and maintenance of artificial bunds along the banks of the Irrawaddy River in Lower Burma form an important part of the irrigation work of the Public Works Department in this Province. Embankments maintained by the

Department exist also in the Pegu and Ma-ubin Districts. The capital outlay on the Irrawaddy and Thôngwa Island embankments for which alone capital accounts are maintained amounted at the end of the year to 34·3 lakhs. In the whole Province no less an area than 614,299 acres of cultivation, about 10,000 acres more than in 1905-06, were protected by embankments. The receipts representing the total amount of land revenue assessed on the area protected rose from 15·83 to 17·22 lakhs. Working expenses came to 4·35 lakhs, the increase roughly of a lakh being due to the construction of large and costly retirements found necessary in the Kyangin and Myanaung sections of the Irrawaddy embankments. The net revenue from all embankments aggregated 12·86 lakhs, some twenty thousand rupees in excess of the figure of the previous year. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

98. The total area irrigated during the year was 733,817 acres as against 793,739 acres in the previous year. The increase of 16,000 acres served by Government canals and 31,000 acres irrigated from other sources was more than counterbalanced by the decline of 74,000 acres under private canals and 31,000 acres under tanks, while the area irrigated from wells also shows a slight decrease. The increase of area irrigated from other sources is due to the area thus irrigated in Meiktila having been shown in the previous report as irrigated from private canals; the area shown in Meiktila under the latter head, however, showed in the year of report a more than corresponding decrease. Of the six districts which possess Government canals, Thayetmyo and Minbu showed little change. In Mandalay the Canal Tract increased by 4,000 acres, owing to a reduction of the waterlogged area by nearly 2,000 acres, and to extensions of cultivation, chiefly in the bed of the old Aungbinlè lake. From Shwebo an increase of 17,000 acres over last years' figures was reported; but those figures are said to have been only approximate. This increase is due to the opening of the Shwebo Canal, which during the year irrigated over 46,000 acres. The canal will eventually serve an area exceeding 330,000 acres. Kyauksè showed a decrease of more than 3,000 acres due to the unfavourable season and deficiency of water in the Panlaung and Zawgyi rivers, which supply the canal system. In Yamèthin the scanty rainfall also caused a decrease of 2,000 acres in the irrigated area. Of the 59,592 acres irrigated in Lower Burma, 57,480 acres are under paddy cultivation and in Upper Burma the same crop is grown on 648,953 acres out of 674,225. Area irrigated.

Weather and Crops.

99. The rains began favourably for the most part and there was promise of a bumper paddy crop. In the autumn a prolonged break occurred which placed the crop in jeopardy. The final rains, however, were generally good and any danger of a serious shortcoming was removed. The loss on crops on high land which withered owing to the break in the rains was counterbalanced by the decrease of floods in low lands from the same cause, the general result being that the crop was about normal. In the north-west zone and in the central zone the rainfall was in some places more and in others less than the normal, in the dry zone about the same, while in the Delta zone it was appreciably less than normal. In Akyab the rains commenced early and gave promise of a very heavy crop, but a partial failure at the end of October interfered with the prospect and the crop was reduced to a normal one. Heavy floods destroyed the crops in Hanthawaddy District, while Pegu suffered less from this cause than in recent years. In Upper Burma the rainfall was capricious, but on the whole the season was not unfavourable. Character of the seasons.

100. The cropped area for the season under report totalled 12,539,713 acres compared with 12,399,252 acres in the previous year. The principal increases were 28,000 acres each in Pegu and Amherst and 30,000 acres in Henzada, all due to extension of cultivation and nearly all in rice; 69,500 acres in Shwebo, also mostly in rice, and due to land being irrigated for the first time by the canal. In Myingyan there was an increase of 25,000 acres. The principal decreases were 61,000 acres in Magwe and 35,000 acres in Meiktila, due to the bad season. The fallow Cropped area.

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area during the year under report aggregated 3,843,889 acres against 3,720,144 acres in the preceding year. The increases worthy of remark were 12,000 acres in Minbu, 18,000 acres in Yamèthin, 19,000 acres in Prome, 21,000 acres in Ma-ubin, 43,000 acres in Meiktila and 61,000 acres in Magwe. In fifteen districts there were decreases in current fallows amounting in all to 96,603 acres, the largest being 27,000 acres in Henzada and 22,000 acres in Shwebo. The crop failures amounted to 965,781 acres as against 955,978 acres in the previous year. The principal increase was 108,000 acres in Myingyan, while Hanthawaddy showed a decrease of 96,000 and Ma-ubin of 32,000 acres. Two crops were grown on 326,246 acres, an increase of seventeen thousand acres on the figure of 1905-06.

Area under various crops.

101. Of the total area under crops paddy was grown on nearly 9,300,000 acres, 9,000 acres more than in the previous year. The final forecast of the rice crop for the fifteen principal rice-producing districts in Lower Burma anticipated an outturn equivalent to 95 per cent. of the outturn in a normal year and the surplus available for export was estimated at 2,345,500 tons 220,500 tons more than the figure of 1905-06 and 108,500 tons more than that of 1904-05. Sessamum was grown on 959,000 acres, early sessamum showing an increase of 39,000 and late sessamum a decline of 8,500 acres. The area under jowar 855,000 acres, was practically the same as in the previous year. Sessamum is mainly and jowar entirely an Upper Burma crop. Ground nuts were cultivated on 78,000 as compared with 37,000 acres. This crop is grown chiefly in the Magwe and Myingyan Districts. In some places it is said to be displacing sessamum. The acreage under wheat and tobacco showed a reduction of about 10 per cent. in each case.

Experimental cultivation.

102. Arrangements for the distribution of imported seeds were made as usual. With the development of experimental stations, it will be possible to deal more systematically with the problem of introducing exotic plants by means of imported seeds. During 1906-07, 81 pounds of Havana and 78 pounds of Virginia tobacco seeds procured from America were distributed to 21 districts and to the Shan States. The results of the experiments are not encouraging except in one or two cases and in many instances it was reported that the seeds supplied failed to germinate. The remarkable advance within recent years in the cultivation of ground nuts is one of the greatest successes traceable to seed distribution. In 1902-03 there were only 3,866 acres under ground nut in the whole of Burma, of which Magwe District had 3,241 acres. In 1906-07 the total crop aggregated 78,743 acres, of which 42,542 acres were in Magwe, 31,337 in Myingyan and 1,789 acres in the Lower Chindwin. The crop seems likely to extend considerably in these districts, and in Meiktila, Yamèthin, Sagaing, Pakôkku and Thayetmyo, successful experiments have been made. Ground nut appears to be indicated as the coming crop of the dry zone and the mercantile community are doing everything by the erection of mills and other measures to cope with the increased crop. Ground nuts or pea nuts grow best on dry sandy soil. After the flower withers the stalk bends over forcing the pod underground, and in this position the peas ripen. The nuts are eaten as a dessert fruit and made into confectionery, but their commercial value is due to the oil extracted from them. This oil resembles olive oil and is largely used as a substitute for it as well as for soap manufacture and other purposes. The leaves and branches of the plant are greedily eaten by cattle, and form an excellent fodder. The hay is very nutritious, much increasing the milk of cows. The cake holds a high reputation as a food upon which cattle rapidly fatten. Experiments with exotic cottons were carried out on a small scale during the year under report. The failures of the experiments conducted over a series of years by the Burma Cotton Company at Myingyan are disappointing. Every precaution has been taken, but failure has always ensued. Careful experiments will be made on the Mandalay and Dry Zone Farms, and it is hoped that the possibility or impossibility of successfully growing exotic varieties of the cotton plant will soon be finally established. Wheat was tried at Kēngtūng and Hsipaw in the Shan States and in the Chin Hills, the result of the Chin Hills experiment being encouraging.

Horticulture.

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103. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein continued in existence during the year, but no report of the work of the latter Society has been published. The Rangoon Society had a prosperous season and the number of new members elected, 159, exceeded the figure of any previous year. Satisfactory progress was made in laying out the new gardens at Kandawgale and the western or ornamental portion was completed. A commencement was made with the construction of a water-tank and equipment of pipes and hydrants for connection with the Municipal water main. The work will be completed, it is hoped, during the current year at a cost of Rs. 19,000.

Experimental gardens.

104. The various experimental gardens in the Province have now been taken over by the Department of Agriculture. It is a question whether some of them are worth the time and money expended on them. The total expenditure under all heads on the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens amounted to Rs. 10,388 and receipts from sales of produce to Rs. 1,585. The net Government expenditure was thus Rs. 8,803. The reports received from these gardens, with the exception of those from Myitkyina and Taunggyi, contain little of interest. At Sinlumkaba the only fruit trees that give any promise are apples and pears. The Falam garden, in the Chin Hills, seems to be run on thoroughly practical lines. The usual successes and failures with exotic fruit trees are noted; but more practical experiments were also carried on. Potatoes are well established and are widely cultivated, while this year extensive experiments were carried out both in the experimental garden and at various centres with wheat and barley. The results of experiments with wheat were satisfactory, and endeavours are being made to induce the Chins to grow wheat. The results of the Katha garden are most disappointing. Experiment there is none: while, as a commercial concern, it cannot be called a success. Of the Myitkyina gardens, that at Myitkyina shows fair results. Peaches succeed excellently, as well as the Avocada pear, the loquat, orange, pomelo, walnut and nectarine. It is proposed to take steps to place the fruit, both of the garden and of private gardeners, on the Mandalay and the Rangoon markets. On the other hand it is difficult to see what useful object can be served by the retention of the garden at Sima. There is apparently no population either to buy produce or to copy experiments and the garden records few successes and no receipts. The Taunggyi Report is, again, very encouraging. The expenditure (Rs. 4,337) was somewhat high owing to the laying down of water-pipes and the replacement of old implements. As usual a number of probationers have been trained in the garden and those who qualified have been sent back to the Chiefs who deputed them. Useful experiments in the cultivation of fruits, vegetables and other products have also been carried out with varying success. A new development was originated by Major Macnabb, when Deputy Commissioner of Sagaing, *i.e.*, the district garden. The primary object of the new departure was the production of young trees for road-side planting: but one or two useful experiments, notably with cotton, were also tried.

Forests.

Forest Reserves.

105. Of a total estimated forest area of 130,540 square miles on the 30th June 1907 a sixth, or 21,575 square miles, was reserved forest. The nett addition of 1,030 square miles to the latter area during the year of report represents the fresh area reserved during the year, 1,028 square miles, mostly in the Pegu and Southern Circles, after allowing for corrections of survey figures and for a small amount of disafforestation. At the beginning of the year areas aggregating 814 square miles were under settlement for the purpose of notification as reserved forests and 2,809 square miles more were taken in hand. A sum of Rs. 18,668 was expended during the year on settlements completed and in progress.

Demarcation and surveys.

106. Expenditure on the demarcation of forest boundaries amounted to Rs. 22,631, rather less than in 1905-06. Out of a total length of boundaries of

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17,516 miles, demarcation was still required in respect of 721 miles. Fifty-one square miles only of reserved forest in the Thaungyin Division were surveyed during the year on the 4-inch scale by Survey of India Party No. 20. The cost of this survey was Rs. 18,281. Five hundred miles of boundary surveys on the same scale were carried out in the Southern Circle by the Forest Survey Department. Survey work was also done by local Forest Officers. The expenditure on survey of all kinds fell from 1·73 lakhs to less than Rs. 44,000. Three thousand three hundred and sixty four square miles of reserved forest in Pegu Circle and 1,383 square miles in Tenasserim Circle still remain to be surveyed.

Working-plans.

107. During the year of report working-plans were sanctioned by Government for 131 square miles of reserved forest and 2 square miles of unclassed forest in the Thayetmyo District. At the end of the year the total area for which plans have been completed amounted to 4,208 square miles, of which all but 2 square miles consisted of reserved forest. The compilation of working-plans was in progress in respect of a further area of 2,395 square miles, 630 square miles having been undertaken during the year. The theory is that plans should be prepared eventually for the whole forest area, estimated at 130,540 square miles. Plans of operations were sanctioned for all divisions and were generally worked up to.

Roads and Buildings.

108. Rs. 69,198 were spent on new buildings, chiefly officers' quarters and forest rest-houses, and Rs. 34,744 on repairs. Quinquennial schemes of road construction were sanctioned and there was a considerable increase of activity under this head. The length of new roads rose from 569 to 740 miles and of roads repaired from 950 to 1,327 miles, while expenditure increased in a corresponding degree, the total being Rs. 54,679 against Rs. 31,024 in the previous year.

Forest offences.

109. The number of forest offences reported during the year declined from 3,722 to 3,553. Out of 3,431 cases disposed of 3,204 ended in conviction and only 227 in acquittal. The decrease in the number of cases came mainly under the head of unauthorised felling and appropriation of timber and forest produce, but there were also slight decreases in cases of injury by fire and illicit grazing, while miscellaneous offences rose in number. Thousand two hundred and forty one cases were taken into Court of which 1,030 ended in conviction. There was an important prosecution in the Pegu Circle for illicit extraction of timber from the Mèzali reserved forest. The accused, Maung Pe of Bassein, was sentenced to six months' simple imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 500, 188 logs were seized and his three elephants worth about Rs. 15,000 were confiscated and made over to the Forest Department. The rules relating to the composition of forest offences were revised during the year.

Protection of forests.

110. The area in which fire protection was undertaken fell from 8,213 to 8,153 square miles, chiefly owing to contraction in the Northern Circle. Fires were much less numerous, affecting only 371 as compared with 832 square miles. No fires of outstanding importance were reported during the year. The total cost of the operations rose by fifteen thousand rupées to 2·90 lakhs. Out of 21,574 square miles of reserved forest only 490 square miles were open to all animals and a small further area to browsers only. Grant-holders under settlement and contractors working in the forests are allowed free grazing and about Rs. 3,000 were collected in fees from the public. Considerable work was done in cutting climbers and felling ficus-infested trees.

Plantations and experimental cultivation.

111. The area of regular plantations maintained by the Forest Department fell from 5,829 to 5,611 acres owing to curtailment of the Mergui Rubber Plantation. Only 22 acres were in Upper Burma. Fifty-two acres in Thayetmyo were under cutch, 1,914 acres in Mergui under rubber and the rest under teak. Plantations on hill-clearings, mostly of teak, were also practically confined to Lower Burma. The area (72,988 acres) increased roughly by 2,400 acres, but the extension of *taungya* plantation has been restricted under the orders of Government and new

plantations are only being formed for reproductive purposes or where it is desired for forest purposes to maintain villages in the vicinity of a reserve. The question of the tendency of complete fire-protection in certain forests to stifle the natural reproduction of teak is engaging the attention of forest officers. Extensive flowerings of bamboos have taken place recently, especially in Upper Burma. These flowerings, which occur periodically at uncertain intervals, cause the death of the tree, thus lightening the cover over large areas. The general effect of this clearance is favourable to the reproduction of teak and efforts are being made to take advantage of the opportunity by assisting nature as far as possible. Cultural operations of various kinds were in progress throughout the province as in former years and many interesting experiments were carried out. Much work was done on the Mergui rubber plantation and Rs. 54,151 were spent on it, bringing the total expenditure up to date to Rs. 2,28,514. A favourable report was received on samples of rubber from the plantation submitted for analysis. As the experiment has accomplished its object in showing the possibility of rubber cultivation in Mergui it is proposed to make arrangements for leasing the plantation. Rs. 3,257 were spent on the experimental rubber garden at Mergui. Tapping of Hevea trees was continued and 1,328 lbs. of dry rubber obtained fetched £219. The receipts of the garden amounted to Rs. 6,717. A scheme for the establishment of a rubber plantation in the Northern Arakan Hill Tracts was sanctioned. Altogether 1·28 lakhs were spent during the year on plantations and experiments and the revenue accruing was Rs. 11,608.

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112. The number of trees girdled increased from 71,856 to 84,670. The total quantity of timber of all kinds extracted amounted roughly to 22 million cubic feet as compared with 26 million in the previous year: 3·8 million were worked by Government, 17·7 million by purchasers and over 400,000 each by free grantees and right-holders. In accordance with the policy of Government the proportion of timber worked by the Forest Department has decreased appreciably. The reduction of the outturn did not affect teak as the amount of teak worked out, 11·8 million cubic feet, was 700,000 cubic feet in excess of the figure of 1905-06. The contraction was mainly under the head of unreserved woods and is accounted for in Upper Burma by the disorganisation of the timber trade owing to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay, the principal market for this class of timber. The amount of fuel extracted also declined from 17 to 14 million cubic feet. Efforts to find remunerative markets for *pyingado*, *padauk* and other special woods were continued, but no notable development was reported.

Extraction and sale of timber.

113. Nothing definite has yet resulted from Mr. Sindall's experiments in manufacturing paper from bamboo pulp, although enquiries by firms interested continue to be received. The tannin factory was closed throughout the year. The question of the continuance of the experiment is under consideration. Various experiments with sleepers were made. A list of useful timber found in Tenasserim has been printed and a depôt for the sale of seasoned timber has been established in Mandalay with a view to fostering a demand for indigenous woods.

Miscellaneous.

Mines and Quarries.

114. Applications were received during the year ending the 31st March 1907 for 4 exploring licenses, 34 prospecting licenses and 9 mining leases, while two applications were made for the renewal for a further period of prospecting licenses already granted. During the same period 9 exploring licenses, 27 prospecting licenses and 3 mining leases were issued, and 5 existing prospecting licenses were renewed. A lease was granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company, Limited, over an area of about 2,496 acres in the State of Tawngpeng in the Northern Shan States for mining for silver, copper, lead and zinc. The Company is building a railway and is carrying on its operations with energy. Under another mining lease further petroleum-bearing areas in the Yenangyaung Township of the Magwe District were granted to the Burma Oil Company. The third lease related to the

Grant of new concessions.

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grant to the Burma Development Syndicate, Limited, of some 3 square miles of land in Maliwun Township, Mergui District, for tin-mining operations. Two prospecting licenses were granted to the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company of Mandalay. One was for iron ore at Twinngè, Maymyo Subdivision, and the other for prospecting iron and minerals containing iron, in Thôndaung, Maymyo Subdivision. The discovery of gneissic granite near the Pegu-Moulmein Railway line in the vicinity of Kyaikto may prove to be of considerable importance as the stone is valuable for building purposes and for ballast on the Railway, and it may also be found suitable for use in the construction of the Rangoon River training works.

Petroleum.

115. The total yield of petroleum diminished by about 4½ million gallons to 137 million gallons valued at 84 lakhs of rupees. Increased output from the Burma Oil Company's extended and deep borings in the Magwe District was counteracted by restricted production in the Pakôkku and Myingyan Districts. During the year work was commenced on an important project, which has long been talked of, namely, the construction of a pipe-line to convey oil from the Yenangyaung field (which is already connected by a pipe-line with the Singu and Yenangyat field) to Rangoon. It is anticipated that the completion of this work will lead to a large increase in the output. The Company have been granted a prospecting license for an area of just over 20 square miles in the Myingyan District, which may be the beginning of a new development of oil-production in the Province. In the Pakôkku District the Burma Oil Company, the Rangoon Oil Company and the Minbu Oil Company own the largest concessions. The first named Company bought all the oil produced by the two other Companies. The field shows signs of exhaustion, though a good well was struck towards the close of the year of report. In the Magwe District, during the year, there has been increased activity in the oil-field, consequent on the advent of the Rangoon Oil Company and Messrs. Jamal Brothers, who have purchased a number of well-sites. The Rangoon Oil Company have completed one well; four others are nearing completion and preparations have been made to start drilling on three other sites. The Burma Oil Company are the largest producers of oil in the Yenangyaung field. They have also made several purchases and are now working about 250 hand-dug wells. The question of extending the Yenangyaung field by including the site in which the villages of Bemè and Twingôn stand was under consideration at the end of the year. The question is a difficult one by reason of the vested interests which the *twingas* or native well-owners possess in these sites. In Akyab and Kyaukpyu the output remains small, and showed a decrease on the previous year's results.

Gold.

116. The Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, continued to dredge for gold in the River Irrawaddy near the Confluence. A second steam dredger was at work during the year, and a third, of an improved type, was under construction at the Company's dockyard at Mankin. As the stretch of river bed now being worked has not turned out as remunerative as was expected, the Company has applied for a further concession above the Confluence where the bed of the river is said to contain more gold. The quantity of gold won during the year was 2,300 ounces, valued at Rs. 1,32,750, as compared with 620 ounces in the previous year. Several prospecting licenses for gold were issued during the year as well as one exploring license covering 80 miles of the Shweli river, but there are at present no certain indications of the existence of gold in paying quantities elsewhere than in the Irrawaddy River near Myitkyina. As in previous years alluvial gold washing on a small scale without the aid of machinery was carried on in many different places throughout the country.

Rubies.

117. No new ruby-bearing locality was discovered and, with the unimportant exception of a few workers in Myitkyina District who paid Rs. 440 in license fees, the mining industry was monopolised by the Burma Ruby Mines Company and its licensees in the Mogôk valley of the Ruby Mines District. The value of rubies extracted (including sapphires and spinels) amounted to Rs. 14,18,246,

nearly Rs. 27,000 more than in the previous year, while the income of the Company from royalties came to Rs. 2,65,200 from some 13,000 native miners as compared with Rs. 1,81,932 from 9,000 miners. The explanation given for the increase of royalties is that some of the native miners succeeded in finding remunerative workings outside the Mogôk valley, notably at Kyatpyin. The drainage tunnel under construction in the Mogôk valley, which is expected greatly to facilitate mining operations, is nearing completion. It was extended 1,433 feet at a cost of Rs. 1,28,233 during the year and was 3,363 feet long at the end of February 1907. The profits of the Company during the year were £21,978 and a dividend of one shilling per share was distributed against £12,067 and six pence per share in the previous twelve months. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

118. 2,214½ cwts. of jade valued at Rs. 1,17,929, were extracted in the Myitkyina District. The decrease in the quantity extracted was due to the fact that during the year labour was scarce at the mines, the Kachin miners having been attracted the to the Hukong valley and the Laisai mines by better prospects in connection with the extraction of rubber and amber. There was also a great decrease in the value of the stones extracted. More amber was produced in the same district, but the quality and the price fell off. Fewer licenses were issued for tourmaline mining, but the price of the stone rose considerably. Over 2 lakhs', worth of tin was extracted in the Mergui District. An officer of the Geological Survey of India was deputed to Mergui during the year to report on the state of tin-mining and the methods employed in that district, and his investigations when completed should be of assistance in the development of the tin-mining industry. No new coal beds were discovered during the year, but the Thitchauk mine in the Upper Chindwin District continues to show promise and a mining lease has been issued since the close of the year. Other minerals.

119. Clay, laterite, limestone, sandstone, and gravel were extracted as usual in large quantities. The supply of these stones is practically inexhaustible and the output depends mainly on the demands of the Public Works Department, the Railway and Municipalities for building and road-making purposes. Granite was extracted in three districts. Marble continued to be quarried in the Mandalay District, where it is used chiefly for making the carved figures of Buddha met with everywhere in Burma. There was a decreased output this year, possibly due to the prevalence of plague in Mandalay. Quarry stones.

Manufactures.

120. There is no indication of any change during the year of report in the nature of the staple industries of the Province and there is nothing new to be said on the subject. According to the census of 1901 rice mills supported over 41,000 people, of whom four-fifths were workers, and saw mills 8,000, of whom three-fourths were workers. Of the home industries cotton-weaving and spinning were by far the most important, supporting nearly a quarter of a million persons. Over 90 per cent. of the actual workers were women. Carpenters and sawyers with their families numbered each about 70,000. Tailoring supported 58,000, the sexes being nearly equally divided. Goldsmiths, silk-weavers, mat-makers, cheroot-rollers, blacksmiths and potters come next in order of importance, and after them turners and lacquerers and makers of felt or wooden shoes. Except in the case of skilled artizans the census figures were probably below the actual numbers at the time and since 1901 there has no doubt been a general increase in the number of persons employed in manufactures. The industries which come within the scope of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, are mentioned in the next paragraph. Principal industries.

121. The provisions of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, which is in force in Lower Burma only, were extended during the year to nine rice mills, seven saw mills, one cotton mill, one flour mill, and one soap factory, while one bread factory disappeared from the returns. The most important concerns are rice Factories.

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mills (137) and saw mills (74) besides five foundries and three ice factories. The soap factory is a new venture. The number of operatives employed fell from 31,531 in 1905 to 30,866 in 1906. The decline was most marked in the Rangoon Town District. This decrease may be attributed partly to the prevalence of plague and partly to the fact that many factory hands took the opportunity of low rates of passage to revisit their homes in India. The figures for Akyab show that in that district the average daily number was only 503 in 1906 as compared with 1,252 in 1905. This falling off is explained by the fact that owing to the small demand for Akyab rice in the Europe market, seven factories in the district did no work during the year. The sanitary arrangements in factories throughout the Province are generally reported to be satisfactory. The reports indicate that while the conditions are not ideal and there is room for improvement, factory owners do their best to provide suitable accommodation and pure water and to keep their premises in a sanitary condition. No serious abuses are reported. In Rangoon and the suburban district of Hanthawaddy, and at Moulmein, the health of the mill operatives was good. At Bassein and Akyab there were outbreaks of cholera of some severity, but in both cases the disease was prevented from assuming epidemic proportions. At Akyab the completion of the new Municipal water-supply project is expected to result in improved conditions in the mills when a sufficient supply of good water is assured. The wages of factory operatives compare favourably with those of outside labour, and their condition is generally speaking one of prosperity. The number of women and children employed in factories in Burma during the year was 652 and 313 respectively as compared with 649 and 159 in 1905. The employment of children is almost entirely confined to Rangoon and its suburbs, where 256 children received certificates during the year. Women and children are never employed except on light work. Fencing of machinery is generally reported as adequate. The defects discovered during the year were mostly of a minor character and have been remedied. There were 153 accidents of which six were fatal. In Moulmein a boy died as the result of being scalded whilst cleaning out a boiler. The engine-driver was prosecuted under section 287, Indian Penal Code. He was acquitted, but the Board of Examining Engineers cancelled his certificate. The other five fatal accidents appear to have been due mainly to carelessness on the part of the deceased. There were no prosecutions under the Factories Act during the year.

Trade.

Maritime Trade—Total value.

122. Excluding Government transactions the aggregate sea-borne trade of Burma for the year ending on the 31st March 1907 once more surpassed all previous records. The total of 48·43 crores exceeded the figure of the previous year, which itself constituted a record by no less than 570 lakhs or 13·36 per cent. as compared with an advance of 1·3 per cent. in 1905-06. There was a moderate improvement amounting to 4 per cent. in the foreign trade and a noticeable increase of 25 per cent. in the coasting trade. In the foreign trade, exports of Indian produce, chiefly rice, showed contraction, but the deficit under this head was more than counterbalanced by the growth of imports. In the coasting trade, imports as well as exports expanded, especially the latter, owing to larger shipments of rice. Of the total value the coasting trade represented 48 per cent. against percentages of 44 and 38 in the two previous years. Eighty-two per cent. of the entire trade passed through the port of Rangoon, Moulmein being second with 8 per cent.

Foreign Imports—Rangoon.

123. Foreign imports at Rangoon amounted to 929 lakhs out of a total for all ports of 956 lakhs. This figure was 119 lakhs in advance of that of the previous year. Under articles of food and drink there was a decline of 9·39 lakhs. A fall of 4 lakhs in the value of spirits imported was due to heavy clearances from bond at the end of the previous year. Importations of provisions showed a falling off from the high figure of 1905-06. More salt to the value of 9·63 lakhs against 8·33 lakhs was imported. English salt resumed the lead over the German product and Spain entered the field of competition for the first time. Shipments of sugar declined from 36·71 lakhs to 30·33 lakhs owing to a large decrease in

imports of continental sugar partly counterbalanced by a substantial improvement in respect of Java cane sugar. An advance of 52·8 lakhs in imports of metals and manufactures of metals included 16 lakhs under unmanufactured metals and 30·23 lakhs under Railway plant and rolling-stock. The advance under the former head was chiefly owing to higher prices and the latter increase was due, first, to a change in the system of classification under which stores for the use of Railway Companies which are the lessees of State-owned lines are now treated as private merchandise for statistical purposes, thus bringing the practice into accordance with the treatment for fiscal purposes of railway stores imported by Companies, and secondly, to increased importations of rails, carriages and locomotives for the new Rangoon Electric Tramway and for the extensions of the Burma Railways. This trade is practically restricted to imports from the United Kingdom. The comparative position of the United Kingdom in the Hardware and Cutlery trade continued to decline in favour of Austria and Germany, but under metals the share of the United Kingdom amounted to 66·47 lakhs or four-fifths of the trade, against 40·45 lakhs in 1905-06. In the importation of Machinery and millwork and railway plant and rolling-stock the United Kingdom meets with no serious competition. Imports of kerosene oil from America rose from 5·55 lakhs to 8·95 lakhs. An increase of 44 lakhs under Yarn and textile fabrics was mainly accounted for by larger importations of cotton piece-goods counterbalanced in part by a decline under Twist and Yarn due to the high prices ruling in the home markets. The fluctuations of the market affected imports from the United Kingdom and from other countries, but except in the case of coloured, printed and dyed goods the United Kingdom practically controls the market. Imports of silk piece-goods also rose by 6 lakhs to 54 lakhs, but shipments from the United Kingdom continue to decline and this trade is now being monopolised by Japan. Silk piece-goods to the value of about 3 lakhs were imported overland from Siam. Imports of raw silk declined by 17 per cent. owing, it is said, to the high prices current in Hongkong. About 30 per cent. of the raw silk in Burma is brought overland from Western China and is not subject to customs duty. The trade in cigarettes continued to expand from 8·83 to 9·72 lakhs. 8·17 lakhs' worth came from the United Kingdom, but cigarettes of American origin and cigarettes manufactured in England from American tobacco are included in this total. The value of matches imported—mainly from Japan—rose from 10·60 lakhs to 12·16 lakhs, the latter figure constituting a record.

Foreign Imports—Minor Ports.

124. The value of the aggregate foreign import trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports showed a marked advance from 15½ to 26¼ lakhs due chiefly to importations of machinery and iron and steel building materials for the new white rice mills erected at Akyab and Bassein. Owing to this cause the import trade of Bassein rose from the vanishing point to 9 lakhs of rupees and that of Akyab from something under 2 lakhs to more than 4 lakhs. Imports of kerosene oil into Akyab entirely ceased. On the other hand a quantity of salt in bulk was consigned to the port. Moulmein and Victoria Point showed a slight improvement as regards the import trade, while imports into Mergui and Tavoy fell off.

Foreign Exports—Rangoon.

125. The value of the foreign export trade from Rangoon declined by a sum of 90¾ lakhs to 12 crores 16 lakhs. A further decline was recorded in the exports of pulse, which consist chiefly of peas and beans, from 21·25 lakhs to 14·82 lakhs. The fall was confined to shipments to Europe and is attributed to injurious reports as to suitability of Burma beans as food for cattle. Exports to Japan and the Straits Settlements increased. Twenty-one million cwts. of rice valued at 911 lakhs were exported as compared with 25 million cwts. and 1,013 lakhs in 1905-06. The most noticeable feature in the rice trade for the year was the great demand from India on account of scarcity in Eastern Bengal. Prices in consequence ruled higher and the trade with the Straits Settlements and Java declined by 1 million and 1½ million cwts., respectively, as these countries could obtain their supplies at a cheaper rate from Saigon. For the same reason exports to China and Hongkong did not expand to any appreciable extent, notwithstanding the fact that there was a severe famine in China. Japan also took nearly four million cwts. less

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than in the previous year, but this is attributed to bumper crops and to the large stocks of rice remaining in the country at the close of the war. Towards the end of the year there was a revival of the trade with Japan and several Japanese steamers entered in ballast and cleared with full cargoes of rice. Exports to Continental Europe were in excess of the total of the preceding year, by over two million cwts. A very large business was done during the last two months of the year as stocks of rice in Europe are said to be somewhat depleted. There was a noticeable increase in shipments to Holland, Germany and Austria-Hungary. Exports of cutch rose from 54,464 cwts. valued at Rs. 8·49 lakhs to 95,451 cwts. valued at Rs. 15·53 lakhs, of which the United Kingdom appropriated Rs. 9·54 lakhs. Shipments during the two preceding years had been below the average and stocks in Europe were consequently on a low level, which led to heavy exports during the year under review. There was a large output of cutch in Burma and in spite of the larger demand, prices did not advance to any extent. Cutch is principally used for dyeing the nets and sails of fishing boats. The invasion of the markets of the Farther East by the Burma Oil Company, Limited, during the years 1904 and 1905, in defence of their position in India terminated after satisfactory arrangements had been made with their competitors, and the exports of kerosene oil to foreign countries have in consequence practically ceased. There was no appreciable variation in the export trade in paraffin wax, the value of which amounted to 9·59 lakhs. The total of other kinds of mineral oils exported rose from a few thousand gallons to 819,639 gallons owing to the shipment of 800,000 gallons of Benzine to Rotterdam. This new development promises to continue, and should be considerably assisted by the recent decision of the Suez Canal Committee to rescind the rule preventing the passage of Benzine in bulk through the Canal. The export of liquid oil fuel is at present on a small scale, but the Burma Oil Company, Limited, have considerably enlarged their refinery for the manufacture and supply of this commodity to the Admiralty, and it is anticipated that large shipments will be made in future years. The cotton crop was a good one and exports increased, but owing to a fall in prices the value, 28·24 lakhs, showed little variation. The United Kingdom took 84 per cent. of the exports and Italy followed with 6·5 per cent. Japan obtained its requirements at a cheaper rate from China and in consequence the exports to Japan fell from 45,154 cwts. to 2,857 cwts. India also took less cotton owing to good local crops, the shipments amounting to 22,708 cwts. against 39,519 in the previous year. There was a slight fall in the quantity of hides exported, but the value advanced from 49·02 to 54·14 lakhs. Owing to the rise in prices an impetus has been given to the trade in hides with Western China and a fair quantity entered Burma *viâ* Bhamo. Over 14,000 cwts. of hides, valued at Rs. 5·91 lakhs, were also imported from Calcutta for re-export to foreign ports. There was a marked decline in exports of hides to the United Kingdom and an increase in exports to the United States ; this was due to more accurate information having been supplied by shippers, as formerly there were reasons to believe that a large proportion of the trade shown against the United Kingdom was really intended for the United States. Skins to the value of Rs. 2·66 lakhs were shipped to India, principally to Madras, where these skins are cured preparatory to re-export to the United States. Rice bran exported during the year fell from 181,352 tons, valued at Rs. 52·36 lakhs to 132,398 tons valued at Rs. 44·19 lakhs, of which the United Kingdom absorbed Rs. 26·32 lakhs, the Straits Settlements Rs. 10·05 lakhs and Germany Rs. 7·32 lakhs. The trade in seeds, consisting almost entirely of ground nuts, deserves special notice in view of its rapid growth during the past few years. In 1902-03 the trade was valued at a little over a thousand rupees, in 1905-06 at Rs. 7·31 lakhs and in 1906-07 at Rs. 16·68 lakhs. Export of ground nuts rose from 106,578 cwts. valued at Rs. 7·31 lakhs in 1905-06 to 243,575 cwts. valued at Rs. 15·96 lakhs, or by 110·83 per cent. Ground nuts are chiefly used for the production of oil and during the past two years the bulk of the shipments were consigned to Hongkong and the Straits. Shipments of teak declined from 36,385 tons valued at Rs. 49·82 lakhs to 30,321 tons valued at Rs. 43·99 lakhs or by 16·66 per cent. in volume and 11·30 per cent. in value. The United Kingdom took 21,027 tons and Germany 3,887 tons. The supply of first class timber was limited and this probably accounts for the decline in the exports to countries in

Europe where the timber is required for shipbuilding purposes. There was a large increase in exports to India, but the timber was of an inferior quality and the average price was only Rs. 83 per ton against Rs. 145 per ton in the foreign trade. The share of the British Empire in the total trade of Rangoon increased from 52·48 to 56·26 per cent. of the aggregate trade of the port. The value of the import trade with the Empire advanced by Rs. 97·37 lakhs or by 17·46 per cent., while that of the export trade fell slightly by Rs, 6·89 lakhs or by 1·26 per cent.

Foreign Exports—Minor Ports.

126. The value of the aggregate foreign export trade in merchandise of the subordinate ports also showed an improvement, the advance amounting to Rs. 46·53 lakhs or 22·5 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The outports accounted for about one-fourth of the total shipments of rice from Burma and the bulk of the shipments went to the Continent, practically nothing being shipped to the United Kingdom. Unlike Rangoon, the increase was mainly under the head of rice, of which substantial shipments were made from Moulmein and Bassein. At Moulmein high prices induced cutlivators to part early with their grain, resulting in the bulk of the 1907 crop being marketed and shipped before the close of the financial year. White rice was for the first time shipped from Bassein during the year of report. Exports of rice from Akyab have contracted considerably during the past two years in consequence of the inferior quality of cargo rice shipped in 1904-05 and the demand now is principally for white rice. The decline was also due to a partial failure of the crops in certain districts in the Arakan Division. The increase in the trade of Moulmein is satisfactory in view of the fact that the navigation of the river gave trouble and several steamers had to leave this port with part cargoes of rice and complete their loading at Rangoon. There appears to be every prospect that the trade of Bassein will increase ; it possesses a splendid natural harbour with easy access from the sea. Exports of teak from Moulmein declined owing to a falling off in the quantity and quality of timber brought in from the forests. The bulk of the shipments was consigned to the United Kingdom.

Coasting Trade.

127. The remarkable expansion in the coasting trade of the Province has been briefly referred to in paragraph 122. Imports rose by 85 lakhs to 9·96 crores and exports by 390 lakhs to 13·67 crores. The figures for subordinate ports were 205 and 220 lakhs, representing increases of 11 and 26 lakhs respectively, the substantial improvement under exports being due to larger shipments of rice and paddy. The following remarks are confined to the Rangoon trade. There was a further satisfactory advance in the imports of coal from 329,177 tons valued at Rs. 38·92 lakhs to 394,496 tons valued at Rs. 49·65 lakhs. The increase is due to a more general use of Bengal coal by the local shipping companies and by the Burma Railways, and affected imports of foreign coal, which fell from 17,957 tons to 10,154 tons. The value of the trade in grain and pulse is the highest on record and advanced from Rs. 44·53 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 51·96 lakhs or by 16·7 per cent. Imports of wheat-flour account for nearly half this trade and amounted to Rs. 25·21 lakhs, of which Bengal supplied Rs. 16·64 lakhs and Bombay Rs. 8·57 lakhs. The imports of pulse were valued at Rs. 11·31 lakhs and of rice at Rs. 9·40 lakhs. A marked increase took place in importations of gram, which were valued at Rs. 4·72 lakhs against ·30 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of jute, which consist principally of gunny bags and rope and twine from Bengal, advanced from Rs. 85·54 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 1,04·80 lakhs in 1906-07. Imports of oils amounted to 3,085,553 gallons valued at Rs. 55·87 lakhs as compared with 4,027,314 gallons valued at Rs. 62·72 lakhs in the previous year. The trade in oils was overdone in 1905-06 and large quantities remained in stock at the close of the year and demand in Burma was consequently weaker. The trade consists principally of castor, cocoanut, ground nut and til-seed oils from the Madras Presidency. There was a marked decline in imports of kerosene, castor and til-seed oils. The value of seeds imported declined from 306,712 cwts. valued at Rs. 28·88 lakhs in 1905-06 to 228,825 cwts. valued at Rs. 23·31 lakhs in 1906-07. This trade consisted chiefly of til-seed valued at Rs. 20·85 lakhs, the bulk of which came from the Madras Presidency. Shipments of spices rose in

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value from Rs. 53·60 lakhs in 1905-06 to Rs. 59·85 lakhs in 1906-07, and consisted mainly of betel-nuts valued at Rs. 53·54 lakhs, the bulk of which came from Bengal. Imports of tobacco declined from 16¾ million lbs., valued at Rs. 37·05 lakhs in 1905-06, to 14¼ million lbs. valued at Rs. 31·22 lakhs in 1906-07. Good crops in Burma led to the fall in the imports from India and to the marked increase in the exports to foreign countries. There was a decline from 99 to 92 lakhs under cotton manufactures owing to an increase in the imports from foreign countries. Of the total value of piece-goods imported from India, Bombay contributed Rs. 24·03 lakhs, Madras Rs. 17·71 lakhs, and Bengal Rs. 7·15 lakhs. Hides and skins valued at 9 lakhs were landed at Rangoon. The excess of 6 lakhs over the figure of the previous year is explained by the fact that large consignments were exported to foreign countries from Calcutta *viâ* Rangoon. The abnormal expansion of the export coasting trade of Rangoon was almost wholly due to increased shipments of rice amounting to 641,986 tons valued at 5·84 crores as compared with 301,980 tons valued at 2·38 crores in 1905-06. On account of the famine in Eastern Bengal heavy shipments of rice and paddy amounting to 458,000 tons as against 34,000 tons in the previous year were made to Calcutta and Chittagong. Exports to Bombay fell by 100,000 tons, while shipments to Madras showed a furtner improvement: High prices ruled throughout the year and the average value of husked rice works out to Rs. 4-12-9 per cwt. as compared with Rs. 3-4-8 and Rs. 3-15-7 in 1902-03 and 1905-06 respectively. Exports of teak rose from 45,918 tons valued at 37·38 lakhs to 56,699 tons valued at 46·98 lakhs. Shipments of raw cotton declined from nearly 10 to 6 lakhs owing to a reduced demand in India consequent on improved local crops.

Transfrontier trade.

128. The inland trade of Burma with foreign countries and with the tributary States and tribes on the external frontiers prospered during the year and showed a rate of expansion not much below that of the sea-borne trade. The total value of the trade amounted to four crores 88 lakhs, of which 238 lakhs represented imports and 250 lakhs exports. These totals were 11·5, 1 and 23·7 per cent. respectively in excess of the corresponding figures for the previous year. All countries shared in the increase, Western China to the extent of Rs. 8,13,000, Northern Shan States Rs. 9,40,000, Southern Shan States Rs. 19,04,000, Northern Siam Rs. 9,62,000, Southern Siam Rs. 2,23,000 and Karenni about two lakhs.

Trade routes—Western China.

129. The trade with Western China amounted to 81 lakhs, an increase of 11·13 per cent. Imports rose from 35 to 37 lakhs chiefly owing to expansion of trade by the Momauk, Mansi, Nanhlaing and Waingmaw routes. The establishment of an Agency in Bhamo by Messrs. Fabricius & Co. has stimulated the trade in hides, which increased by Rs. 2,62,000. Consignments of silver also advanced by two lakhs on account of the large demand for jadestone and amber. The decrease of about two lakhs in raw silk was due to the high prices ruling in China and to the scare caused by the severe outbreak of plague in Mandalay. The decrease under opium of about one and a half lakhs is due to the fact that the quantity of the drug allowed to be transported per man has been reduced. Exports increased from 37 to 44 lakhs. There was an improvement in respect of almost every commodity, the most striking being cotton, raw (Rs. 67,000), twist and yarn, Indian (Rs. 1,25,000), piece-goods, European (Rs. 1,24,000), and silver (Rs. 2,97,000).

Northern Shan States.

130. The total trade with the Northern Shan States rose from 119 to 129 lakhs. Imports were valued at 67 lakhs, the increase of three and a half per cent. being principally under hides (Rs. 1,70,000), lac (Rs. 85,000) and teak timber (Rs. 2,53,000). There was a decrease of about two lakhs in dry tea, but an increase in the quantity of wet or pickled tea, owing to remarkably low prices of the latter, the best tea being sold at Rs. 19 to Rs. 23 per 100 viss as against Rs. 33 to Rs. 35 and the inferior kind at Rs. 12 per 100 viss. The Burmans prefer using the wet tea to the dry tea, as the former is cheaper. In exports an advance of 13·09 per cent., chiefly under twist and yarn, European. Iron and silver raised the total

to 62 lakhs. The abnormal increase in iron is due to the large exports of railway materials to Bawdwin for the Burma Mines Railway and Smelting Company, Limited. The decline in the exports of opium is due to the same cause that affected the trade by the Western China route. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

131. The trade with the Southern Shan States, which totalled 162 lakhs, was 13·32 per cent. greater than in the preceding year. Imports representing nearly 63 lakhs showed a decrease of ·48 per cent. and exports an increase of 25·9 per cent. The trade on the whole was prosperous, but it was greatly hampered by plague and by wild rumours regarding that epidemic. There was a marked decrease in imports under cattle owing to the prevalence of cattle disease, and in silk piece-goods and silver. The decline under these heads was partly counterbalanced by the enormous increase in imports of sticklac and of cattle hides. In exports, with the exception of apparel, there was an increase in almost every article. European piece-goods, betel-nuts, gold and silver account for the principal increases. The abnormal increase in silver was due to timber merchants having exported money to work the forests in the Southern Shan States. Southern Shan States.

132. The trade exchanged with Northern Siam, amounting to 61 lakhs, showed an increase of 18·64 per cent. Imports (34 lakhs) increased by 10·78 per cent. and exports (27 lakhs) by 30·15 per cent. There was a large increase in the imports of teak timber and silver and in exports of cotton and silk piece-goods and silver. The recent removal of the registration office from Tadanku to Thingan-Nyinnaung has resulted in better registration, to which the increase is largely attributed. Northern Siam.

133. The total trade with Southern Siam was valued at 14·38 lakhs, a rise of 18·32 per cent., chiefly under imports of silver. The increase is due to causes similar to those which caused the increase in the trade of Northern Siam. Southern Siam.

134. Trade with Karenni increased in value five per cent., from 38 to 40 lakhs. Imports, which represented nearly 24 lakhs of the trade, declined owing to a diminished trade in teak, while the large expansion of exports was due to heavy consignments of silver from Burma. Karenni.

Public Works.

135. During the year under review, an important change was made in the Administrative Control of the Public Works Department by the appointment the second Chief Engineer as Joint Secretary to the Local Government. This change, which was introduced from the 1st November 1906, has been found greatly to facilitate the disposal of work in the Secretariat. An Executive Engineer was added to the superior staff in order to provide for the deputation of an officer to the Andaman Islands for the execution of public works in the Settlement. The total outlay on public works from all sources during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 139 lakhs, being over 6 lakhs behind the figure of the previous year. The decrease is more than accounted for by a contraction from 114 to 105 lakhs in the expenditure incurred on Provincial Civil Works. It must be borne in mind, however, that the outlay in 1905-06 was exceptional as the average for the five years preceding the year of report comes to 94 lakhs only. General.

(i) *Roads and Buildings.*

136. Ten thousand three hundred and sixty-eight miles of made roads as distinguished from *kachcha* tracks were open to traffic at the end of the year. Of this total 1,792 miles were metalled and 8,576 miles unmetalled. One hundred and twenty-five miles of metalled and 2,729 miles of unmetalled roads were maintained by local authorities and the balance by the Public Works Department. The figures show an addition of 63 miles of metalled and 213 miles of unmetalled roads during the year. The aggregate expenditure on Communications.

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communications amounted to 18·80 lakhs on original works and 22·85 lakhs on maintenance. A lakh and three quarters more were spent on repairs, but the outlay on new roads showed a shrinkage to the extent of more than 4 lakhs of rupees. Nearly 3 lakhs more were spent on unmetalled roads, but the cost of new metalled roads fell off by nearly 7 lakhs.

Metalled roads.

137. In the Mandalay Division six miles of new roads were opened to traffic at Maymyo and a new road from Mandalay to Lamaing was under construction. Considerable progress was made with the remetalling of the Thabeitkyin-Mogôk road, which serves the Ruby Mines, fifty-five miles out of sixty being completed. In the Minbu Division some progress was made with the metalling of the Minbu-Salin road and with two short lengths in the Pakôkku District. In the Magwe District a short road from Thittabwe to Nyaunghla was under construction. In the Tenasserim Division good progress was made with the steel bridge over the Sittang river at Toungoo which will connect the hill station of Thandaung and the country east of the river with the Railway. Some improvements were carried out on the Toungoo-Thandaung road and a new road from Ôktwin to Yetho was under construction in the Toungoo District. Some new bridges were built in the Tavoy District and the work of metalling the Tavoy-Mergui road was in progress. In the Southern Shan States fair progress was made with the metalling of the Thazi-Taunggyi and Taunggyi-Hopon roads, but work on the former was hampered by the heavy cart traffic. In the Pegu Division the road from Penwègôn to Anambaw on the Sittang river, which was wrecked by floods, was reconstructed, and the road from Pegu to Tandawgyi up the right bank of the Pegu river was nearly completed. A new road from Hlegu to Paunggyi was completed, the Pegu-Thazôn road was raised and three other roads in the Pegu District were demarcated with boundary pillars. The Rangoon-Prome, the Hlawga-Taukkyan and the Hlawga-Hlainggôn roads were demarcated, a metalled foot-path from Minhla to Mônyo and a short feeder road to Inywa Railway Station were practically completed. A considerable amount of new bridging was under construction in the Tharrawaddy District and good progress was made in the conversion of two raised foot-paths into cart-roads from Shabintha to Ywathaya and from Thônzè to Panzwe and Sakhangyi. In the Irrawaddy Division the Kangyidaung-Bogayet road was completed and a section of the Prome-Taungup road was metalled. Metalling was also in progress on the Kamauksu-Aingthabyu, the Bassein-Kozu and the Bassein-Shwemyindin roads. A new bridge was built over the Kyônlhan creek and the bridging on the Danubyu-Kyôntani road was extended.

Unmetalled roads.

138. As in previous years much useful work was done throughout the Province in opening out and maintaining unmetalled roads and bridle-paths. Details of the very numerous works are not of sufficient interest to find a place in this report.

Communications—Miscellaneous.

139. The construction of the steel pin truss bridge over the Namtu river at Hsipaw was pushed on, the superstructure being well advanced by the close of the year. Three wire-rope ferries were in course of erection on the Chinese Frontier road in the Bhamo District connecting up the Military Police posts of Lweje and Pankam. The erection of another at Saw in the Pakôkku District was commenced. A number of inspection bungalows, rest-houses and caravanserais were constructed during the year.

Buildings—Imperial.

140. Apart from Military works which are dealt with in paragraph 80, very little of the Public Works expenditure in Burma is debitable to Imperial Funds. Certain alterations and improvements were carried out at the Diamond and Slipper Island Wireless Telegraph Stations, which are an Imperial charge, and the total expenditure under the head Imperial Civil amounted to Rs. 8,141.

Buildings—Provincial.

141. The expenditure from Provincial Funds on civil buildings amounted to 46·56 lakhs, of which repairs and upkeep accounted for 6·32 lakhs. The outlay on original works was some 5½ lakhs less than in the previous year. Over nine lakhs

were allotted to Police and a similar amount to Medical buildings, while Law and Justice swallowed up over six lakhs, Administration nearly 5½, Telegraphs 2⅓, Jails 1¾, Educational 1⅛ and Post offices 1 lakh. Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. An extensive addition to the Secretariat buildings completing the original quadrilateral design of which the front and back blocks were occupied 13 years ago, were practically finished, the new wings were connected with the main south facade and the several offices accommodated in them were provided with electrically-operated punkahs, partitions, and other necessaries according to requirements. Sundry improvements were also made in the old General Public Offices in Strand Road. Fair progress was achieved with the works comprised in the project for the new General Hospital at Rangoon. The structural work of the main building and paying-patients block was nearing completion, the out-patients department was practically completed and quarters were built for the Resident Medical Officer, the matron, nurses and the sergeant. The construction of the new Chief Court was advanced a stage. The inner walls were carried up to the first floor level, and the ground floor, which is made of reinforced concrete on rolled steel beams was completed. The entire foundations for the clock tower have been piled with *thitya* piles, 15 inches to 18 inches diameter, driven into hard soil, 3 feet apart. Good progress was made with the extension of the Currency Buildings at Rangoon. The conflicting interests of the Currency and Customs Departments caused some delay, but the disagreement has now been satisfactorily settled. A commencement was also made with the new Press building. Outside Rangoon new buildings were in course of construction all over the country. A number of new court-houses were provided for the better accommodation of existing Courts and for Judges of the recently constituted Judicial Services. Government School buildings were also in progress at various centres. The reconstruction of the spire of the Mandalay Palace was completed at a cost of nearly Rs. 65,000. Six new post offices, seven combined post and telegraph offices, two sub-post offices and four small telegraph offices were built during the year. The new jail at Moulmein is the most important jail work that was under construction during the year. When completed this jail will accommodate 527 prisoners, of whom 15 will be females, 12 civil prisoners and 40 undertrials. A new feature is the provision of dormitory cells for 120 prisoners, and the Hospital accommodation will be very complete. In the Southern Shan States nearly three lakhs of rupees were spent in moving the Kēngtūng post to a healthier site at Loimwe, which is about 5,000 feet above the sea. The most important Civil Police work under construction was the Training School for Probationary Assistant Superintendents and Sub-Inspectors at Mandalay. The project comprises quarters for the pupils and instructors together with the necessary auxiliary buildings and a parade ground. It is estimated to cost three lakhs of rupees, the buildings being of a permanent type. The Secretariat Camp offices at Maymyo were completed and official residences for Government servants were built at various stations.

Miscellaneous.

142. Nearly 15 lakhs were spent by the Public Works Department on miscellaneous works not coming under the head of roads and buildings. Of this amount 3·71 lakhs were a charge on Provincial Funds. Nearly 11 lakhs were expended on improvements to towns and the remainder on the construction and maintenance of various minor works. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme progressed satisfactorily, the outlay having been about 6½ lakhs of rupees. Road-making was undertaken at various civil stations, notably at Maymyo, and jungle-clearing was also carried out at one or two places. The Hlawga waterworks were completed and handed over to the Rangoon Municipality on the 1st July 1906. A supplementary estimate amounting to Rs. 1,42,662 was sanctioned for special repairs to the dam, the work being undertaken partly by the Public Works Department and partly by the Municipality: the portion taken in hand by the Public Works Department was finished and made over to the Municipality. Roadside arboriculture received attention. Working-plans for the planting of various roads were prepared and some planting was done. Now that

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a Manual of Arboriculture for the guidance of District Officers has been prepared by an Officer of the Forest Department, successful planting may be anticipated and progress will be more rapid than in the past.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—Construction.

143. The Provincial Railway system was worked throughout the year by the Burma Railways Company. No addition was made to the 1,340·15 miles of line on the metre gauge open for traffic, but a further advance was made towards the completion of the new lines under construction. On the Pegu-Martaban branch, 121·27 miles long, 99 lakhs out of an estimate of 122 lakhs, and on the Henzada-Kyangin extension, 65·66 miles long, 38 lakhs out of a total of 62 lakhs had been expended by the end of March 1907. The East Daga loop line between Bagayet and Neikban stations on the Bassein-Henzada Railway was sanctioned at an estimated cost of 40 lakhs and Rs. 35,000 were spent on it, but work was afterwards postponed pending the settlement of certain questions of alignment. The detailed survey of the 2 feet 6 inches gauge line from Bhamo across the Chinese frontier to Têngyüeh (122½ miles) was completed; the prospects of this line appear to be promising. A reconnaissance survey beyond Têngyüeh to Talifu (250 miles) was started in February 1907 and was in progress at the end of the year. A number of surveys were also undertaken both by Government and by the Burma Railways Company in respect of projected extensions of the existing system. The detailed survey of a line from Moulmein to Ye (94 miles) was completed. A reconnaissance survey for a branch from Moulmein to Kawkareik (43½ miles) was finished and a detailed survey from Moulmein to Myawaddy (85 miles) was in progress. The location of a branch metre gauge line from Thazi into the Southern Shan States (110 miles) was also in hand; this line had been surveyed before for a 2½ feet gauge railway, but it is now desired if possible to have a metre gauge line. A detailed survey for a metre gauge line from Maungdaw to Buthidaung (17 miles) was completed during the year. These surveys were carried out by Government. The following proposed lines were partially surveyed by the Railways Company:—Henzada-Danubyu-Pantanaw (55¾ miles) with a chord Danubyu to Wetchaung (23 miles), Shwebo-Ye-u (22 miles) and Myingyan-Natogyi (19 miles). Sanction was also obtained for the survey of a line from Nattalin eastwards to the left bank of the Irrawaddy river opposite Kyangin. On the open line various important works were completed or in progress during the year. Among these may be mentioned the doubling of the line from Hlawga to Wanetchaung and from Thingangyun to Dabein, the addition of a third storey to the Railway Offices in Rangoon, the construction of a new ferry steamer and the provision of additional locomotives and rolling-stock.

Railways—Interruptions and accidents.

144. Breaches of the railway line due to floods were less frequent and less serious than in the previous year. On the 6th September 1906 a bridge at mile 102 on the Prome line was damaged by a block of logs, and for three days vehicles had to be hand-shunted across and engines could not pass. In June 1906 the Mu Valley section was breached in many places between miles 540 and 593 and communication was interrupted for a fortnight. Another breach lasting for a day only occurred in the same section in September 1906. There was a comparatively large number of accidents on the line during the year including five serious collisions and five derailments. Wreckers, by tampering with the line, succeeded on one occasion in derailing a passenger train and on another in wrecking a goods train. In the first case a fireman died of injuries received, and the driver and guard as well as 14 passengers were slightly injured. In the second case the driver and a fireman were injured. Altogether railway accidents caused the death of two railway servants, and injuries, slight for the most part, to seven railway employees and 18 passengers.

Railways—Finance and traffic.

145. The capital outlay on the Burma Railways system during the year 1906-07 amounted to nearly 45 lakhs against 24 lakhs in 1905-06 and the total capital outlay up to the end of the year stood at 14 crores 7 lakhs. The gross earnings

of the year rose by 2¼ lakhs roughly to 160 lakhs, but unfortunately working expenses increased by a larger sum (3·37 lakhs) so that the net earnings of the line, roughly 59⅓ lakhs, were more than a lakh behind the figure of the previous year, and the ratio of expenditure to receipts rose from 61·51 to 62·75 per cent. The aggregate train mileage, 5,194,543 miles, exceeded the mileage run in 1905-06 by nearly 350,000 miles, but the earnings per mile run were less. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

146. No addition was made during the year of report to the existing number of tramways in the Province. The steam tramway, nearly 8 miles long, over which the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company run one passenger train daily each way between Thatôn and Duyinzeik in connection with their launch service to Moulmein, earned Rs. 40,690 or about Rs. 3,000 less than in the previous year, more than two-thirds of the receipts being due to freight on goods. The rolling-stock consists of 4 locomotives, 8 passenger carriages, 2 luggage vans and 69 goods trucks. It is thought that the opening of the Pegu-Moulmein Railway may seriously affect traffic on this line. For the year ending the 31st December 1906 the total earnings of the Rangoon Steam Tramways reached Rs. 2,75,763-1-6, the total number of miles run, 328,180, and the total number of passengers carried, 3,433,540, as compared with earnings during 1905, Rs. 2,51,334-9, number of miles run, 257,134, and number of passengers carried, 3,214,097. At the end of December 1906, the Electric Tramways service from the Suratee Bazaar to Kemmendine was opened for traffic and the Steam Tramways service from the Suratee Burra Bazaar to Ahlone was discontinued. The electrification of the system was completed in March 1907. In Mandalay the existence of plague continued to affect adversely the earnings of the Electric Tramways. The number of passengers carried, 2,619,285, was less by nearly two hundred thousand than the figure of the previous year and the mileage run, 543,587 miles, also shows a falling off. The Shanzu Section of the Tramways was opened during the year. The promoters of the Madaya Light Railway, in consultation with the Municipal Committee, framed a draft agreement in connection with the propossed Madaya Tramways Extension, which they submitted to Government for sanction. Tramways.

(iii) Canals.

147. The Pegu-Sittang and Sittang-Kyaikto Canals, respectively 45½ and 14 miles long, remained open for traffic throughout the year. All other canals in Burma are primarily irrigation works and, with the exception of the Shwetachaung in Mandalay District, are not used to any extent for traffic. 202,695 tons of goods and rafted produce valued at 104 lakhs were carried on the Pegu-Sittang Canal and 28,943 tons worth 12 lakhs, on the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal. Traffic on both waterways increased and the expansion on the shorter canal was quite remarkable, as only some nine thousand tons were carried in the previous year. The improvement was mainly under the heads paddy and rice, vegetables and fruits and miscellaneous. The Lower Burma canals earned Rs. 1,99,042 and Rs. 10,847 respectively, while maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 97,212 and Rs. 16,227. Navigation charges on the Shwetachaung brought in six thousand rupees. Nearly a lakh and a half were spent in new works and repairs on the two Lower Burma navigation canals and leaving out of account the initial cost there was a loss of revenue on their working. Navigation Canals.

Irrigation.

148. The Mandalay and Shwebo Canals were the only major irrigation works which earned revenue during the year 1906-07. 46,282 acres were irrigated from the Mandalay Canal as compared with 41,839 acres in the previous year and 44,639 acres were served for the first time from the newly constructed Shwebo Canal. The results on the Mandalay Canal have not come up to expectations owing mainly to the slow rate at which land covered by heavy jungle is being occupied and cleared for cultivation and in a smaller degree to water-logging in the Aungbinlè Lake and on the Patheingyi and Tamôkso Major Works, Imperial—(i) Completed works.

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distributaries. Drainage schemes are under consideration. On the Shwebo Canal much work remains to be done on the distributaries and water-courses. On Major Irrigation Works the bulk of the receipts represent water rates *plus* the difference between the "dry" and "wet" rates assessed as land revenue. During the year receipts amounted to 2·89 and 1·16 lakhs on the Mandalay and Shwebo Canals respectively and working expenses to Rs. 92,000 and Rs. 52,000, the surplus revenue being equivalent to 3·85 and 1·4 per cent. of the capital outlay to date, which comes to 51 and 46 lakhs. Surplus revenue on the Mandalay project showed a substantial rise of Rs. 83,000.

Major Works—(ii) Works under construction.

149. The head weir and undersluices of the Ye-u Canal were completed. Two trial lines for the main canal were laid out and various minor works were constructed. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 1,41,971 and the total outlay to the end of the year amounted to 6 lakhs against an estimate of 35 lakhs. On the Môn Canals very little progress was made by Messrs. Burn & Co., the contractors, in the construction of the head works, and this slow progress has been due chiefly to the insufficient arrangements made for obtaining labour. A satisfactory advance was made, however, on the excavation of the North and South Canals, and on the construction of cross drainage works. Eight and a half lakhs were spent during the year and on the 31st March 1907 the capital outlay exceeded seventeen lakhs, the estimated cost of the work being 43·99 lakhs.

Minor Works—Provincial.

150. The total area irrigable from the Minor Irrigation works in the dry zone of Upper Burma is roughly 645,000 acres, but the area actually irrigated in any year is usually very far short of this maximum. With some important exceptions these works were constructed before the annexation of the Upper Province, but they have been much improved in the course of time by the Public Works Department. During 1906-07 only 246,733 acres were irrigated as compared with 287,766 in the previous year and the receipts consisting of a varying share of the land revenue assessment declined by about Rs. 10,000 to 9·07 lakhs, while working expenses increased by about Rs. 22,000 to 7·83 lakhs, resulting in a net revenue of 1·24 lakhs. 3·19 lakhs were expended on new works and 1·96 lakhs on repairs. The most important works were carried out on the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank, the Meiktila Lake, the Ngapyaung Canal and the Shwetachaung, the outlay amounting to 52, 44, 29 and 23 thousand rupees respectively, while about Rs 33,000 were spent on repair works on the Salin Canals. The total net revenue for all these minor irrigation works as far back as accounts go amounted at the end of the year to 14·65 lakhs.

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CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES—

Land Revenue Administration Report for the year ended the 30th June 1907.

Excise Administration Report for the year ended the 31st March 1907.

Salt Administration Report for the year 1906.

Note on the Administration of Stamp Revenue for the year ended the 31st March 1907.

Note on the working of the Income-tax Act for the year ended the 31st March 1907.

Report on the Maritime Trade of Burma for the year 1906-07.

Forty-first issue of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries in the year ending the 31st March 1907, and the four preceding years, Volume II, Table 7.

Fourteenth issue of the Financial and Commercial Statistics of British India, Tables I—Area, Population and Land Revenue, III—Salt, IV—Opium, V—Excise, VII—Stamps, and VIII—Income-tax.

Gross Revenue.

151. The sum total of all receipts of the year preceding the 1st April 1907 paid in to the credit of Imperial, Provincial and Local Funds was in round numbers 10 crores 26 lakhs of rupees, or £6,840,000 sterling, calculated at the rate of 15 rupees per sovereign. Of this amount the Imperial revenue amounted to 335 lakhs, or £2,233,000 sterling, a decrease of 62 lakhs as compared with the receipts of the previous twelve months, mainly due to a nominal deficit of 52 lakhs under Land Revenue caused by the transfer from Imperial to Provincial in connection with the new Settlement of a contribution 53 lakhs in excess of the figure of 1905-06. Provincial Funds received 472½ lakhs or £3,150,000 sterling an increase of nearly 52 lakhs over the receipts of 1905-06 owing to the enhanced contribution mentioned with reference to Imperial Receipts; while the various District (Cess), Port and Municipal Funds covered by the expression Local Funds collected no less than 218 lakhs, or £1,453,000 sterling, the large capital loans raised during the year by the Rangoon Port Trust and the Rangoon Municipality being the chief cause of the increase of 35 lakhs above the total collections made within the previous year. The gross expenditure under all heads rose by 43 lakhs to 730 lakhs, or £4,867,000 sterling. Under Provincial the net excess over the expenditure of 1905-06 came to over 52 lakhs the largest increase being over four lakhs under Police and nearly five lakhs, under Medical and the largest decrease nearly 9 lakhs under Civil works. The five years' Provincial settlement expired on the 31st March 1907. During its continuance the gross revenues of the Province have risen from 9 crores 69 lakhs to 10 crores 26 lakhs and the gross outlay from 6 crores 36 lakhs to 7 crores 30 lakhs. During the same period Provincial receipts have grown from 340 to 473 lakhs and Provincial expenditure from 373 to 453 lakhs.

(*a*) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

Land Revenue.

152. Receipts credited to the major head Land Revenue are divided equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds, but this equation is seriously interfered with owing to the fact that adjustments under the Provincial Settlement are made under this head. The gross land revenue of the Province increased from nearly 383 to 386 lakhs, but the Imperial share underwent a reduction from 120 to 68 lakhs because the contribution from Imperial to Provincial revenues exceeded the figure for 1905-06 by 53·74 lakhs, including the lump sum initial grant of 50 lakhs transferred from Imperial to Provincial Funds to enable the Province to start the new Provincial Settlement under favourable conditions. The Report on the Land Revenue Administration deals with the agricultural year which closed on the

Land Revenue receipts.

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30th June and in consequence the statistics of revenue there given differ from those exhibited in the Financial Accounts of the Province for the financial year ending on the 31st March. The great bulk of the revenue is, however, assessed and collected during the nine months common to both years and in most years the explanations of variations given in the departmental report are equally applicable to the fluctuations shown in the Accounts. The figures quoted in the remainder of this paragraph are taken from the Land Revenue Report and relate to the agricultural year. The figures relating to *Ordinary Land Revenue*, that is revenue levied on land under occupation in Lower Burma and under at last partly successful cultivation in Upper Burma have been given in paragraph 17 and it is unnecessary to repeat them here. Receipts from capitation tax rose by about Rs. 70,000 to 50·27 lakhs. A large increase of Rs. 91,857 in Akyab was due to energetic enforcement by the Deputy Commissioner of the decision to to assess systematically the Chittagonian coolies who visit Akyab District annually to work as agricultural labourers. A million and a quarter persons were assessed, the increase of nearly 25,000, being rather better than the average of the past few years. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma rose by 14,600 to nearly 750,000, but in spite of this expansion collections (46 lakhs) were less by some Rs. 40,000 than those of 1905-06. The falling off in collections was chiefly due to reduction of rates in connection with settlements in Shwebo and Meiktila Districts. Remissions rose from 42 to 60 thousand rupees owing mainly to crop failures in Pakôkku and Myingyan. Receipts from land rate in lieu of capitation tax increased from Rs. 94,199 to Rs. 96,453. There was a remarkable decline of over 2½ lakhs in the fishery revenue, the proceeds of which amounted to 26 lakhs. The decrease was mainly in receipts from leased fisheries. Under this head there were increases aggregating five lakhs in the two years 1901—1903; smaller advances of three quarters of a lakh roughly in each of the next two years and a decline of a like amount in 1905-06. About half the revenue comes from the Irrawaddy Division, which was mainly responsible for the falling off. The immediate cause was the effect on auction prices of the two preceding bad seasons. With increased activity in the oil-fields, the total receipts classed as Miscellaneous Land Revenue rose by nearly one and a quarter lakhs to close on 25 lakhs. The increase in miscellaneous land revenue from about 11¾ lakhs in 1900-01 to the amount realized in 1906-07 is almost entirely due to the increased output of oil. All other heads but the rent of town lands and fines under the village law show an actual decrease and the increase under the former head is less than Rs. 22,000.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

153. Mention has been made in paragraphs 147 to 150 above of the amount of revenue derived from canals and irrigation works during the financial year 1906-07. Receipts from canals used for navigation purposes only are wholly Provincial; revenue derived from the Minor Irrigation Works is included in the land revenue assessment and dealt with accordingly, while receipts from Major Irrigation Works are wholly Imperial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

Customs.

154. Duties on imports other than salt and on exports, which constitute all but a fraction of the receipts collected by the Customs-houses of the Province, are entirely an Imperial asset. During the financial year 1906-07 they amounted to nearly 123 lakhs, or 5·37 lakhs less than the receipts for the previous twelve months, mainly by reason of continued duty-free exports of rice to India due to scarcity in Bengal as well as to a decline in the rice trade with the Straits Settlements partly counterbalanced by an improvement in import duty. Provincial receipts, contributed mainly by overtime and holiday fees, amounted to the small sum of Rs. 84,913.

Opium.

155. Receipts credited to the major head Opium, which is wholly Imperial represent the cost of opium, at Rs. 8-8-0 a seer, supplied by the Government of Bengal for distribution to the licensed opium shops in Burma. They amounted

to 5·77 lakhs as compared with 6·08 lakhs in the previous year. The reduction is attributed to the progressive restriction by Resident Excise Officers of the quantity sold to each purchaser to the amount which he requires for his personal use.

Salt.

156. Revenue falling under the Major Head Salt was divided equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The total collections (Rs. 16,96,196) credited to this head during the calendar year 1906, with which the Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue deals, showed a decrease of Rs. 1,11,216. The loss of revenue is accounted for by a diminution of over a lakh and Rs. 27,000 respectively in the receipts from import duty on salt and on salt-fish, counteracted in part by a rise of Rs. 22,000 in the amount of Excise duty on salt manufactured in Burma. The fall in customs duty realised was not due to a diminution of imports but to a decline in the amount of salt withdrawn from bond. To what extent the diminished consumption of foreign salt and salted fish in the year under report is to be attributed to the expansion of the supply of local salt is not clearly established, but it is certain that increased supply of the local article must affect imports. The estimated consumption of salt in the Province amounted to 1,986,044 maunds of which local salt accounted for 721,664 maunds against 620,211 maunds in the previous year. The percentage of consumption of local salt has been fairly constant in recent years at about 30 per cent. but the percentage for 1906 showed a marked rise and an examination of the figures for previous years indicates that the tendency is for the consumption of local salt to increase until checked by enhanced taxation as it was in 1898 and 1901. There appears to be some danger that unless the duty is raised a permanent displacement of foreign by local salt may occur. The system of direct taxation on output was introduced into the Kyaukpyu District from the 1st January 1906 and is now in force in the seven districts of Lower Burma in which salt is produced on a considerable scale. As has happened before in similar circumstances the change of system in Kyaukpyu was accompanied by some dislocation of the industry and consequent loss of revenue. In the other six districts the industry flourished under the new system. In Akyab, Sandoway and Thatôn the policy of concentrating manufacture and restricting the issue of licenses came into force. In these three districts and in Upper Burma, where the levy of compensation duty on the vessels employed is still in force, only 96,700 maunds were produced as compared with 123,989 maunds in 1905. The excise duty on local salt remained unchanged at 8 annas a maund and the only alteration in the rates of compensation duty took the form of a slight enhancement of the fees levied in the Sagaing District. Practically the same quantity of foreign salt was imported during the year, but only 1,264,380 maunds (46,447 tons) paid duty, 3,904 tons less than the figure of the previous year. The bulk of the salt imported into the Province came from England and Germany, the former country retaining the leading position which it had regained in the previous year. Imports from Aden fell by nearly a lakh and for the first time consignments amounting to 157,888 maunds were received from Spain. Over 10,000 maunds were shipped from Liverpool to Akyab. The supply of local salt in Arakan is ordinarily sufficient to meet the demand, but in the last two years foreign salt has been taken owing no doubt to shortage of the outturn from the Kyaukpyu District. Various questions regarding the enhancement of the excise duty and the introduction of improved arrangements for assessing and collecting the revenue based on outturn have been under consideration and some difficulty has been experienced in arriving at final conclusions. With a view to the settlement of these questions a special officer has been deputed to visit salt-producing localities in Madras and afterwards to report fully on the conditions of the Burma industry in conjunction with an officer of the Madras Salt Department.

Excise.

157. Excise receipts continued to be divided in the proportion of two shares to Imperial and one share to Provincial Funds. The gross receipts from Opium and Excise fell from 89·10 to 82·38 lakhs and charges also declined from 16·05 to 15·59 lakhs so that the net revenue was 6¼ lakhs below that of 1905-06. Of

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the total receipts over 46 lakhs were from Opium. Under the head of Opium there has been a decrease of nearly two and a quarter lakhs of rupees in consequence of the smaller issues of Government opium to the licensed shops Under Excise the revenue frow license fees for the vend of imported liquors fell from Rs. 11,46,924 to Rs. 9,38,044. There was a decrease of more than two lakhs in the fees under this head in Rangoon Town, caused by some general depression in trade arising from the outbreak of plague and other causes, and in part, it is said, by combination amongst bidders at the auction sales. A further reduction of nearly two lakhs occurred in auction fees for licenses for country fermented liquor other than *tari*. Most of the licenses are issued in the Delta, and there had been a large amount of speculative bidding in 1905-06, when many of the foreign liquor shops were closed, and replaced by country liquor shops. Outstill revenue decreased by Rs. 44,000 with the introduction of the contract distillery system and duty on distillery spirit fell from Rs. 3,45,493 to Rs. 2,72,227, notwithstanding the new issues in the contract distillery areas and the increase from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 from the 1st April 1906 in the duty on spirit issued as foreign spirit. The falling off in duty is explained by the abnormally large issues made shortly before the close of 1905-06 in order to escape the increased duty. The *tari* revenue shews a satisfactory increase of about half a lakh of rupees. No important changes were made during the year 1906-07 in the system of opium administration in force in Burma. Two of the three opium shops in Mandalay Town were closed at the beginning of the year; elsewhere the number of shops and the arrangements for vend were continued as in the previous year. Greater attention has been given to the sales at the shops by the officers in charge, with a view to the prevention of the hawking of shop opium, and in consequence there is again a decrease from 78,386 to 74,731 seers in the total quantity of opium sold. Little or no advance has been made in the suppression of opium-smuggling into the Province. Larger seizures of illicit opium were made in most districts, although the total quantity seized was below the figure for the previous year, in consequence of specially large captures in one or two districts in 1905-06. The Excise staff in Upper Burma was reorganized towards the close of the year, the establishments in the frontier districts being strengthened, and the staff in the interior districts being reduced or abolished. The effect of the re-organization will be more apparent in 1908-09. Additions are urgently needed to the staff in several districts in Lower Burma, and proposals which had already been made in this direction are now being revised and resubmitted. Further important measures are shortly to be introduced for the registration of non-Burman opium consumers, for the restriction of each consumer to the nearest shop for his supplies, and for the better prevention of smuggling and hawking. In Excise, as distinct from opium, the chief feature of the year has been the introduction of the contract distillery system into Burma on the 1st November 1906. The object in view in introducing the new system is to replace in the outstill areas the crude outstill spirit manufactured under no sufficient control by plain distillery spirit made in licensed distilleries, and issued on payment of fixed rates of duty. The change in system was made in outstill tracts in five districts of the Tenasserim Division and on the whole the new arrangements have worked smoothly and without any great disarrangement of the revenue. A further reduction was made in the year in the large number of *tari* licenses in the Prome District, and elsewhere some of the smaller *tari* shops were closed without any adverse effect on the total fees realized. Rules were issued during the year for the sale by medical practitioners and pharmacists of medicated wines which contain not more than 42 per cent. of proof spirit.

Stamps.

158. Receipts falling under the Major Head Stamps are mainly a Provincial asset, the Imperial share being one-fourth. They do not include postage and telegraph stamps. After inclusion of the contributions in respect of the unified postage and receipt stamps, the gross receipts from stamps in 1906-07 showed, in round figures, an increase of Rs. 2,41,000 above those for the preceding year, as compared with an increase of Rs. 4,26,000 (including the contribution on account of unified stamps) which occurred in that year. If all figures in respect of receipt

stamps are deducted, the gross receipts for 1904-05, 1905-06 and 1906-07 are Rs. 31,36,127, Rs. 35,47,284 and Rs. 37,99,674. It is probable that the increase of Civil Courts in 1905-06 caused an exceptionally large increase. The receipts from Court-fee stamps in the year of report formed 62 per cent. of the total, a proportion little smaller than that of 1905-06. Expenditure rose by only Rs. 2,691 to a total of Rs. 1,28,385. There were increases in the charges for discount and vend establishment for Court-fee stamps, and for refunds under the Stamp Act, but expenditure on discount and other vend expenses under the Stamp Act decreased. The cost of general supervision amounted to Rs. 23,997, less than that of the previous year by Rs. 563 owing to smaller expenditure on contingencies; and the cost of stamp papers supplied by the Central Depôt declined from Rs. 30,608 to Rs. 28,126. The Superintendent was authorised to transfer surplus stocks of stamps from one local depôt to another. Local depôts were also directed to work down to stocks not exceeding twice the minimum stock. Both these measures probably reduced indents on the Central Depôt. The increase of nearly Rs. 1,86,000 from over 22 lakhs to over 24 lakhs in the receipts on account of judicial stamps compares unfavourably with the increase of over Rs. 4,12,000 recorded in the previous year, but the expansion in the earlier period was unusually large. The average increase of the three preceding years was little over a lakh and a half. The reduction in the increase was distributed in somewhat similar proportions between the two items of Court-fee stamps and stamped copy-sheets. If contributions and actual receipts on account of receipt stamps are included non-judicial stamps yielded in 1906-07 Rs. 14,39,437, that is Rs. 19,203 more than in 1905-06. The check in the expansion of this branch of the revenue may be ascribed generally to the unfavourable seasons of 1905 and 1906 and the resulting arrest of trade. The only items contributing more than a quarter of a lakh to the total revenue under this head are impressed stamps (sheets) and impressed labels which yielded respectively about 7⅓ and 4 lakhs. Receipts from impressed sheets remained practically stationary, but those from impressed labels recovered over Rs. 29,000 out of the decrease of nearly Rs. 89,000 which took place in 1905-06. The amounts of discount on Court-fee stamps and non-judicial stamps increased by Rs. 773, and decreased by Rs. 3,953 respectively. These changes are far from proportionate to the alterations in the sale-proceeds of the stamps themselves because rates of discount on non-judicial stamps are higher than on judicial, and also, it would seem, because Court-fee stamps on the sale of which no discount is due, *e.g.*, when issued singly by the *ex-officio* vendor above the value of Rs. 50, are sold more frequently than similar non-judicial stamps. The decline in the number of cases in which duty and penalty were levied by courts on unstamped or insufficiently stamped instruments and in the revenue derived from them, was arrested in its third year and there was a slight increase in both number and amount. There was also a slight increase in the number of cases dealt with by Collectors. The increase in the duties and penalties realised was large, being Rs. 34,946, but most of it was due to two sums of Rs. 18,530 and Rs. 11,812 charged on instruments presented for adjudication to the Collector, Rangoon. Prosecutions for offences against the stamp law were somewhat less frequent and the amount of fines imposed diminished.

159. Though the Indian Income-tax Act, 1886, was in force throughout the whole of Burma and the Shan States, the tax was collected only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay town. The tax was introduced into Northern Arakan District during the year of report for the first time. The inclusion of this district brought an addition of only Rs. 292 to the provincial collections. Receipts collected under the Act were shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The total collections rose from 15·29 to 15·42 lakhs. The outstanding feature of the year was the notable increase in the total of securities held in the Province, the interest of which is liable to taxation. Government securities showed a moderate rise from 44 to 54 lakhs while the holdings of local securities increased by no less than 86 lakhs, from 155 to 242 lakhs. The expansion is due to investments by the public in Rangoon Municipal and Port Trust loans. The number of companies whose profits were assessed rose from 56 to 62, but the collections declined from

Assessed taxes.

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2·77 to 2·35 lakhs. Receipts from "Other sources" that is, chiefly assessments on private persons, amounted to 7·69 lakhs, showing an insignificant improvement. In Rangoon a falling off of nearly Rs. 10,000 is ascribed to the "adverse influences of plague to depression due to other causes in various trades, and to reaction after a period of inflated prices." Objections to assessments were a good deal less numerous, owing partly, it is said, to useful work done by the Chetty assessor, of whom a second was entertained.

Forests.

160. The gross revenue collected by the Forest Department during the forest year ending on the 30th June 1907 amounted to 86·39 lakhs or about 8 lakhs below the total for the previous twelve months. The income from timber and other produce extracted by Government agency fell from 44·83 to 35·51 lakhs, more than accounting for the decline in the gross revenue. The falling off was due to contraction of Government operations in the Pegu and Northern Circles, to the sale in the previous year of a large accumulation of timber worked out in former years in the Pegu Circle and to unfavourable drift operations in the Pegu and Tenasserim Circles. The expenditure incurred on the operations of the Department declined from 38·64 to 36·35 lakhs and the surplus revenue shared equally between Imperial and Provincial Funds fell from 55·82 to 50·05 lakhs. The saving under expenditure was due to abandonment in the Northern Circle and to restriction in the Pegu Circle of the extraction of timber by Government agency.

Imperial Expenditure.

161. Except under the heads Land Revenue and Customs, where expenditure is debited entirely to Provincial Funds, Imperial and Provincial Funds contribute to the charges incurred under the various budget heads in the same proportion as they benefit by the revenue accruing thereunder and these contributions form the bulk of the Imperial expenditure, so far as it is dealt with in this report. During the financial year ending March 1907 the total Imperial expenditure rose from 53·80 to 57·24 lakhs. Outlay amounting to 14 lakhs was incurred on Military works representing an increase of 3½ lakhs. There were also small increases under other heads counterbalanced in part by the saving of over a lakh on the Imperial share of Forest charges.

(*b*) *REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.*

Provincial Revenues.

Provincial Receipts.

162. Provincial Funds derive the great bulk of their receipts from the heads which are shared with Imperial Funds. The revenue under the remaining heads, which are either entirely Provincial or are shared with Local Funds, amounted to only 28¾ lakhs in the year 1906-07 and fluctuations under these heads do not materially affect the Provincial Budget. The total Provincial Receipts for the year of report amounted to 472½ lakhs, showing an increase of 52 lakhs, which was principally accounted for by increases of 5½ lakhs and 1·78 lakhs under Land Revenue and Stamps respectively and decreases of 2 lakhs under Excise and 2½ lakhs under Forests. Explanations of these variations have been given in the preceding paragraphs relating to Imperial Receipts under the same heads. Under Minor Works and Navigation the increase of Rs. 58,000 was chiefly caused by increase in traffic on the Pegu-Sittang and Sittang-Kyaikto Canals. Further extension of the system of collecting revenue by village headmen caused a rise of Rs. 39,000 under Contributions. Under Police the decrease of Rs. 49,000 occurred owing to receipts on account of steam-boilers having been credited to Local on the creation of the Steam-boiler Inspection Fund as an Incorporated Local Fund from 1st April 1906, to Municipal and Cantonment Funds having ceased to contribute towards Police charges and to decrease in receipts from gambling fines. The falling off under Marine, amounting to Rs. 62,000, was due to the reduction in the rate of Burma Coast Light dues under the orders of the Government of India.

Provincial expenditure.

163. The total expenditure met out of Provincial Funds during the financial year 1906-07 amounted to 453⅓ lakhs of rupees or £3,022,000 sterling and was less than the total receipts (by nearly 20 lakhs) for the first time during the settlement

which expired at the close of the year of report. The total shows an expansion of 6·7 lakhs over the figure of 1905-06. Medical expenditure rose by 4·80 lakhs to 17·56 lakhs owing chiefly to heavier expenditure incurred on plague-preventive measures undertaken by Government and on grants-in-aid to local bodies for the purpose of carrying out such measures. The main cause of the advance from 103·28 to 107·58 lakhs in the cost of the Police Force was the gradual introduction of the Police Commission reforms. Land Revenue and Courts of Law charges amounted to 62½ and 39½ lakhs roughly, increases of over two and nearly three lakhs respectively being due for the most part to new appointments of Extra Assistant Commissioners and Myoôks. The educational activity aroused by His Excellency Lord Curzon shows no signs of abatement and Provincial expenditure on the Department rose from 14·40 to 16·25 lakhs. The reduction in the outlay on Forests from 19·69 to 18·46 lakhs has already been commented on. The disappearance of Post Office expenditure was due to the imperialization of Postal charges from the 1st April 1906. The substantial reduction of expenditure on Civil Works by nearly 9 lakhs, from 114 to 105 lakhs, occurred under Original Works, Civil Buildings and Communications, and is attributed to smaller outlay on District Courts in the Province, on the Rangoon General Hospital, on new Public offices and clerks' quarters in Rangoon as well as on the construction of roads in the Province. The decrease would have been more but for the heavier outlay on repairs in the current year.

Local Funds.

Incorporated Local Funds.

164. Incorporated Local Funds in Burma in the year 1906-07 consisted of 20 District Cess Funds in Lower Burma, 16 District Funds in Upper Burma and the Burma Steam Boiler Inspection Fund. No change took place in the number of District Cess Funds during the year. The aggregate balance at credit of these funds on 1st April 1906 stood at Rs. 12,81,054. The total receipts during the year amounted Rs. 29,99,308 and the total expenditure to Rs. 27,57,754, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 15,22,608 on the 31st March 1907, being Rs. 2,41,554 higher than the opening balance. There was a net increase of Rs. 1,37,147 in receipts in 1906-07 as compared with the previous year. This was due chiefly to increases under Provincial Rates, Civil Works by Civil Officers and Contributions from Provincial to Local, partly counterbalanced by reductions under Police. The net decrease in expenditure as compared with the previous year was Rs. 49,760. Increases occurred chiefly under Medical, Civil Works by Civil Officers and contributions from Local to Provincial, while there were decreases chiefly under Post Office, Marine, and Civil Works by Public Works Officers. The increase under Medical was mainly due to larger outlay in connection with the bubonic plague. Under the orders of the Government of India all postal charges were imperialized with effect from 1st April 1906 and from the same date District Cess Funds were relieved of all Marine charges. The number of District Funds was the same as in the previous year, namely, 16. The aggregate balance at credit of the funds on the 1st April 1906 was Rs. 2,77,509; the total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 5,66,621 and the total expenditure to Rs. 5,84151, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 2,59,379 or Rs. 18,130 less than the opening balance. The accounts show an increase of Rs. 1,11,159 in receipts as compared with the previous year, resulting from increases mainly under Police, Civil Works by Civil Officers and Contributions from Provincial to Local, partly counterbalanced by a decrease under Miscellaneous. On the expenditure side there was a net increase of Rs. 1,46,944 as compared with the previous year, which occurred chiefly under Civil Works by Public Works and Civil Officers in consequence of more funds having been available for outlay out of the contribution of one lakh sanctioned by the Local Government for special expenditure on Public Works. The Burma Steam-boiler Inspection Fund was created as an Incorported Local Fund with effect from 1st April 1906. The Fund closed with a credit balance of Rs. 13,066 on 31st March 1907, the receipts for the year 1906-07 having been Rs. 41,101 and expenditure Rs. 28,035.

Excluded Local Funds

165. In the category of Excluded Local Funds there were in the year of report 7 Cantonment Funds, 17 Town Funds, the Rangoon Port Trust and 6 minor Port

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Funds, 4 Pilot Funds, the Rangoon Police Reward Fund and the Educationa Syndicate Fund. The total income of all the Cantonments, excluding debt heads, amounted to Rs. 1,80,825 and the expenditure to Rs. 1,55,867. The corresponding figures for 1905-06 were Rs. 2,29,662 and Rs. 2,02,909, respectively, so that in the year under report the total income shows a decrease of Rs. 48,837, and the expenditure a decrease of Rs. 47,042. Of the 16 Town Funds mentioned in the previous report, one, namely, Kyaiklat, was constituted a Municipality during the course of the year so that at the end of the year the total number actually stood at 15. In the year under report two new Town Funds were established at Yenangyaung and Kyônpyaw and one Town Fund, Wakèma, was constituted a Municipality, so that the total number of Town Funds at the end of the year was actually 16, as against 15 in the preceding year. The total income of the funds shows a decrease of Rs. 54,630, as compared with that of the previous year, the figures being Rs. 4,42,282 for 1905-06 and Rs. 3,87,652 for 1906-07. The expenditure was less by Rs. 21,674, the total for 1905-06 being Rs. 4,35,687 and that for 1906-07, Rs. 4,14,013. The large decrease in Receipts is due to the transfer of the Kyaiklat and Wakèma Town Funds, with large income to the list of Municipalities. Exclusive of the Rangoon Port Trust, the affairs of which are dealt with separately in paragraphs 83 and 84 the receipts of the 6 minor Port Funds amounted to 3·31 lakhs and expenditure to 3·69 lakhs, involving a reduction in the closing balance. The number of Pilot Funds was four. The pilotage receipts are credited to these funds, from which the earnings of pilots, the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and other expenses are disbursed. The receipts of the Rangoon Police Reward Fund, consisting of fines recovered from policemen, amounted to Rs. 1,075 as against Rs. 738 in the previous year. The fund is utilized in rewarding policemen for good conduct, for arresting criminals and obtaining convictions, etc. The expenditure on this account amounted to Rs. 1,092 during the year under report as against Rs. 722 in the previous year. The total income of the Educational Syndicate Fund amounted to Rs. 49,991, of which Rs. 16,500 is on account of contribution from Government, and Rs. 500 from the Rangoon Municipality towards the Bernard Free Library. The remaining income consisted chiefly of fees for examination by the Educational Syndicate. The balance at the end of the year was better than that of the previous year by Rs. 5,823.

Road and Education Cesses.

166. No special cesses are levied in Burma for the construction and maintenance of roads and the provision of education.

Municipal Revenues.

Rangoon Municipality.

167. The Rangoon Municipality does not bank with Government and its transactions are not therefore shown in the Government accounts. The gross income for the year was Rs. 50,26,371. Excluding items under the head "Extraordinary and Debt" the general income of the Municipality in 1906-07 was Rs. 30,03,564 as against Rs. 26,08,452 in 1905-06. The increase is due chiefly to the principal *ad valorem* taxes being increased during the year, from which source a sum of Rs. 2,43,314 was realised in excess of the figures for the previous year, and to the grant received from Government of Rs. 1,58,719, towards expenditure incurred by the Municipality in connection with the Hlawga water-works and plague operations. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 46,79,686. Eliminating charges for works paid for from loans, and the figures under advances, deposits and other suspense accounts, the total of Rs. 29,67,956 is obtained as the ordinary expenditure during the year as against Rs. 28,56,592, in the year before. The increase during the year of review is chiefly due to the contribution of Rs. 55,351 to the Reclamation fund as the share of the Municipal tax on reclaimed areas and to the increased charges on account of plague, education and conservancy. Under the head of public health and convenience the expenditure in 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 24,51,315, or Rs. 3,34,392 more than in the previous year. This excess was chiefly due to capital expenditure of Rs. 8,07,207 incurred as against Rs. 5,40,942 in 1905-06, and was principally connected with the water supply and drainage improvement

schemes which are being carried out under the supervision of the Special Engineer. The outstanding loans on the 1st April 1906 amounted to Rs. 1,13,94,000 which include Rs. 18,00,000, on account of loans for reclamation works. A four per cent. loan of Rs. 9,14,000 was raised during the year mainly for water works and for the construction of a cattle market.

Other Municipalities.

168. With the exception of Moulmein all the 43 minor Municipalities in the Province bank with Government. The opening balance on the 1st April 1906 amounted to 6·95 lakhs and the gross receipts of the year to 35½ lakhs, of which 5¼ lakhs came under the head of extraordinary and debt. The ordinary income of the 42 municipalities dealt with in the Report for 1905-06 was 32⅓ lakhs and that of the newly constituted Municipality of Wakèma during the year of report was Rs. 25,000 so that there was a decline of nearly 2⅓ lakhs in the ordinary revenue of the original forty-two. The absence of the causes which swelled the receipts of Mandalay in the previous year accounted for the falling off. Grants and contributions (2·78 lakhs) did not vary much from the figure of 1905-06. Considerable grants were made by Government to some of the principal Municipalities for the improvement of the towns. Rs. 50,000 was contributed to Mandalay and Rs. 22,500 and Rs. 20,000 respectively to Prome and Moulmein to meet special outlay on measures for dealing with plague. The total ordinary expenditure during the year was just over 33 lakhs and the closing balance at credit of the funds 8·32 lakhs. If the ordinary expenditure of Wakèma during the year (Rs. 38,000) be left out of account, the charges of the year of report exceed those of 1905-06, 32 lakhs, by about Rs. 70,000. No large expenditure was incurred on water-supply and drainage except at Akyab, where the initiation of the water-works project cost Rs. 45,000. Plague charges amounted to 3·28 lakhs against, sums of 1·03 and ·84 lakhs debited on this account to hospitals and dispensaries and 'conservancy' respectively in the previous twelve months. Expenditure on roads fell off from 5·75 to 4·70 lakhs possibly owing to heavy charges due to Plague. Fresh Government loans of one lakh for settlement of outstanding liabilities on the Moulmein water-works and of Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 25,000 respectively for Public Works at Thayetmyo and Pakôkku were sanctioned during the year. The loan liabilities of Minor Municipalities rose from 21·04 to 24·28 lakhs, 3·52 lakhs being drawn against Government loans. The outstanding debt of Moulmein at the end of the year amounted to 11 lakhs, of Mandalay to 8·03 lakhs, of Akyab to 2·30 lakhs and of Prome to 1·29 lakhs. The debts of other Municipalities were inconsiderable.

Other Funds.

169. As in the previous years only one Trust Fund was in existence, namely, that of the Official Assignee. It does not bank with the Government and its accounts are not shown in the Government accounts. There were four Educational Endowment Funds, *viz.*, Jardine, Maung Ohn Ghine, Renoung and Coplestone funds. These funds do not bank with Government treasuries and their accounts are not shown in the Government books.

Paper Currency.

170. The returns for the year 1906-07 show a very substantial expansion in the circulation of currency notes. The total value of the notes in circulation rose from 184 to 271 lakhs. As hitherto, ten rupee notes, which numbered 352,780, were most popular and Rs. 100 notes, numbering 201,025 were next in favour. Rs. 5 notes (15,004) are still by no means popular. The fluctuations in the circulation of notes of the higher values are almost wholly dependent upon the requirements of the local banks. Out of the total increase of circulation of over 87 lakhs only 14½ lakhs is due to an increase in circulation of large denomination notes, *i.e.*, Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 10,000. It is clear therefore that the increased circulation is not due to an increase in Bank reserves, but to a rise in the active circulation of the lower denomination notes among the people. The popularity of the note circulation is shown by the extensive use made of notes in the Delta districts. In several of these districts a very large proportion of the land revenue is paid in notes, and the use of notes for this purpose is increasing.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1906.

Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1906.

Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1906–07.

Twelfth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1906-07, Tables Nos. XIII (Vital Statistics), XIV (Hospitals) and XVI (Vaccination).

Births and Deaths.

Number of births and deaths.

171. There was no alteration during the year in the areas in which registration of births and deaths was in force, but orders were passed for the extension from the 1st January 1907 to non-Municipal towns and rural areas in Upper Burma of the registration of births, hitherto confined, in that section of the Province, to Municipal Towns. Throughout the country the statistics compiled are no doubt to some degree inaccurate, and the registration of births is probably less accurate than that of deaths. The number of births in Lower Burma fell from 191,226 to 180,025. The decrease was more or less general throughout each division except Tenasserim and no convincing explanation of it is forthcoming. It is suggested that the compilation of the returns by Civil Surgeons may have conduced to greater accuracy, but this explanation of the reduction appears to be of doubtful validity. Some influence is also ascribed to the actual mortality from plague and especially to plague having brought about a scare which resulted in an exodus from the country of the female members of Native Indian families. The generally unhealthy condition of the year may also have adversely affected the birth rate. On the other hand it is not thought that any cause has been at work which has had a direct influence on fecundity or is likely to be permanent. Of the total of 190,380 births registered in the whole Province 98,377 were male and 92,003 female. It is impossible to state the birth rate for the year of the Province as a whole. In Upper Burma, results can only be quoted for the towns; thus in a population of 303,014 the birth rate was 34·17. In Lower Burma, a total population of 710,206 residents in towns exhibits a birth rate of only 25·80; but, if the town and rural population of Lower Burma be included so as to make a population of 5,568,479 the birth rate is found to be 32·33. This percentage is slightly below the average rate for the five previous years, which was 32·85. These figures would argue better results in rural areas without the aid of compulsory registration than in rural areas with it; but, if the populations of the three towns—Rangoon, Akyab and Moulmein (where the proportion of the sexes is largely affected by a floating population of coolies) be omitted, it is found that the average rate for the remaining towns is 33·52. In the case of Mandalay, the rate of 34·46, which was slightly above that for the previous year (33·32), seems to show that the severe epidemic of plague and cholera had no obvious effect upon fecundity; although, on the other hand, it is presumable that the vigour with which registration enquiries were pushed by the Health Officer in the interests of plague measures must have resulted in improved registration. In Rangoon, the return of 17·16 differs little from that of last year, 17·19. The Rangoon birth rate is, of course, infinitely below the results that might be expected; but the population concerned not only represents a manufacturing population, where male labour predominates, but is of a very fluctuating character. In his report on Vaccination, the Health Officer, Rangoon, comes to the conclusion that there is considerable weakness in the registration of births. In the case of Akyab, which also has a cooly population greatly subject to fluctuation, the birth rate is below even that of Rangoon, namely, 15·50 for the year. In the Arakan Division, it is noteworthy that not only is registration of births far below a reasonable standard in the districts of Akyab and Kyaukpyu, but that the rates (26·46 and 29·88) have declined when compared with the average of the five previous years. It is unlikely that this result can be ascribed solely

to the influence of malaria upon the birth rate. In a population of 5,568,479 under registration in Lower Burma, the number of deaths rose from 138,850 to 151,193, representing a death rate of 27·15 against 22·83, the mean for the five previous years and 22·36 in 1904, previous to the introduction of plague. In Upper Burma, in a population of 2,917,501, the deaths were 76,493; yielding a death rate of 26·22 against 19·84, the mean of the five previous years, and 18·69 in 1904. There is thus, in Lower Burma, an increase of 4·12, and, in Upper Burma, of 6·38 above the quinquennial mean. Consequently, had the death rate for 1906 been in accordance with the quinquennial mean, there would have been in the parts of the Province under registration a total of 43,440 less deaths than actually occurred. This calculation, however, accepts the incorrect premiss that registration of deaths has not improved with lapse of time, and takes no note of the inter-censal increase of the population. If the latter factor be taken into account, the death rate for 1906, in Lower Burma, was 24·10 and, in Upper Burma, 23·74. Of the total number of infants whose birth was registered in the towns of Upper Burma, 379·91, and in Lower Burma, 249·27 per mille, died under one year of age. When the total area returning both birth and death rates is included in the calculation, the average rate sinks to 222·41; thus exhibiting the evil influence upon infantile life of urban conditions. In fact, the mortality increases with the total population of the town concerned. Thus, in towns having populations between 5,000 and 10,000 the rate is 236·44; in towns between 10,000 and 20,000, 278·53; in towns of 20,000 and above, 336·56. The mortality of male infants must, in all countries, be expected to be greater than that of females in the first year of life; thus, in Great Britain 27·5 per mille of males under one year of age die in excess of females. But the returns in Burma show that no less than 47·79 more males per mille die than females. In no other Province in India was such a result obtained in 1906. Apart from the question of the proportion of deaths of infants of each sex the excessive mortality of infants of both sexes, especially in towns, is a fact beyond dispute and any measure which may tend to reduce the evil is heartily welcome. So far as mortality results from ignorant and defective treatment of infants the remedy lies largely with the people themselves. That some steps are being taken by the Burmese Community to improve matters is shown by the formation of a Burmese Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality. No connection can be traced between the price of food-grains in any area and the birth and death rates.

Causes of death.

172. The year under review must be described as generally unhealthy. An increase occurred in the number of deaths from each of the principal diseases Plague was the cause of 8,637 deaths during the year as compared with 3,692 deaths in 1905 In Lower Burma the towns of Rangoon, Moulmein, Prome, Bassein, Toungoo and Henzada, and in Upper Burma, Mandalay, Myingyan and Pyinmana were seriously affected by this disease. With some exceptions, the smaller towns and rural areas in the Province have hitherto escaped severe outbreaks of plague. So far as experience in Burma has shown, the measures which appear to the Lieutenant-Governor to be most likely to be of permanent service in dealing with plague are the cleansing of towns and the improvement of general sanitary conditions, the destruction of rats, and inoculation. Large numbers of rats were destroyed during the year, but the expenditure amounted to two lakhs and a half and it seems doubtful whether any substantial diminution of the rat population has been effected. The cultivation in Maymyo of the Danysz virus, by which it is said that rats have elsewhere been exterminated, is being tried. Facilities for inoculation against plague are freely offered, and in some places the people have readily availed themselves of this means of protection. The total expenditure on plague increased from 3·65 lakhs to 4·52 lakhs, of which amount Rs. 2,56,453 were met from Municipal Funds, Rs. 61,273 from Town Funds, Rs. 1,33,674 from District and District Cess Funds and Rs. 1,073 from Provincial Revenues. 7,872 deaths from cholera were reported as compared with 5,347 in 1905. Out of 52 towns only 16 reported no cases of cholera. The rate of mortality from this disease in several towns is said to be exceedingly high for the present day in view of the recognised etiology of the disease. The report of the Sanitary Commissioner

CHAP. VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

contains remarks regarding the pollution of river-water which are doubtless well-founded, but the subject is one which involves serious practical difficulties. The effective control by registration or otherwise, for sanitary purposes, of the immense boat traffic in Burma is not practicable, but something can no doubt be done by the local authorities of riverine towns to preserve the immediate source of their water-supply from contamination. It is believed that the importance of this matter is not overlooked by Municipal Committees. Deaths due to small-pox rose from 6,161 to 8,540, of which 637 only occurred in Upper Burma. The severe epidemic in Rangoon, which was mentioned in the previous year's report, continued during the early part of 1906. In the four months from the 20th January to the 19th May 3,630 cases and 997 deaths from small-pox were registered in Rangoon alone, and many other districts in Lower Burma were similarly affected. A draft Bill to make further provision for compulsory vaccination is under consideration, but the problem of rendering vaccination compulsory without at the same time interfering unduly with the liberty of the subject is one of great difficulty. The opinion of the Sanitary Commissioner that inoculation is largely responsible for the spread of small-pox is doubtless correct, but it is clear that inoculation cannot be prohibited in places where there is not a complete and efficient system of vaccination to offer in its place. Outside of the municipal towns it cannot yet be said that universal facilities for vaccination exist, and so long as that is the case the people must be permitted to resort to inoculation if they so desire. Proposals are now under preparation for providing a full staff of vaccinators sufficient to serve the entire population in one or two districts in Lower Burma. If these proposals take shape, inoculation would then be prohibited in those districts, and the same system would be gradually extended throughout the Province. Deaths due to fevers numbered 75,844, 21,422 in Upper Burma and 54,422 in Lower Burma. The total shows an increase of over six thousand which may be attributed to the generally unhealthy conditions of the year. Malaria is responsible for a large proportion of the fever mortality and preventive measures such as the improvement of marshy grounds and other operations for the extermination of mosquitoes were undertaken in various stations which suffer from malaria. Deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa (11,159) were also more numerous than in 1905 (9,241) and though the mortality (4,024) from respiratory diseases remained practically unchanged in Lower Burma the number of deaths in Upper Burma rose from 1,648 in 1905 to 2,544.

Emigration and Immigration.

173. The number of immigrants who arrived in Burma during the year rose from 239,000 to over 360,000. On the other hand the number of emigrants who left the country also increased from 176,000 roughly to 320,000. The net addition to the population from this cause (40,718) was below the figure of the previous year (62,837). No clear explanation of the increased activity is forthcoming. Probably it was due, partly at any rate, to the continued prevalence of reduced passage fares.

Medical Relief.

Attendance at Hospitals and Dispensaries.

174. There were 213 hospitals and dispensaries open in the Province at the end of 1906 as compared with 208 in 1905. Of these 44 were special, maintained chiefly for the treatment of members of the police force, 19 were railway institutions, and of the remainder 79 were maintained by Local Funds, 52 from Provincial Revenues and 14, of which 10 received aid from Provincial or Local Funds, by private subscription or guarantee. The total attendance of in and out-patients for 1906, excluding the figures for special and Railway institutions, was 1,016,320 or 6,535 less than in the previous year. The decrease under in-patients amounted to 6,362. It is, however, more than accounted for by a decline of 9,640 in the number of patients treated in the Segregation Camp Hospital at Rangoon. This result was brought about by the abolition of the custom of treating outgoing passengers for diseases other than plague and by demanding more discrimination in the observance of rules as to the detention of suspects. Compared with the previous year, increases have occurred under Europeans and Eurasians and

Hindus, while there was a decrease under Mahomedans and Burmese. In the Rangoon General Hospital, a marked decrease occurred both in in-patients and out-patients, which the Civil Surgeon attributes to the extremely unsatisfactory character of accommodation in the existing out-patient department, but the explanation hardly accounts for the variation from the previous year's figures. On the other hand the attendance at the Pazundaung Dispensary has increased so much as to cover this deficiency. The inspection of the Rangoon General Hospital showed that the nursing and menial staff was much below requirements, and a scheme for its re-organisation was submitted to Government. Small-pox occupied an important place in the list of diseases treated in the Province during the year, there having been no less than 2,674 admissions. Regarding the prevalence of venereal diseases and of tubercle in the Province, it is found that Rangoon and Moulmein report a decrease under all heads of venereal diseases, whilst Bassein and Falam show a slight increase. The Civil Surgeon, Maymyo, particularly calls attention to the prevalence of venereal diseases in the area under his charge. In Rangoon, Bassein and Falam increased attendance is shown under tubercular diseases. It is noteworthy that there has been exhibited considerable increased activity in operative surgery—a total of 25,893 operations being performed against 24,536 in 1905. Of these, the large number of 3,053 were performed by the staff of the General Hospital, Rangoon. Operations on the eye, which particularly require encouragement in this Province (there being neither a specialist nor a special ophthalmic hospital) show a moderate increase; but the outturn is still far below the possible maximum. Midwifery operations also increased in number; but as in the Province, at the present moment, there is no lying-in hospital under official administration, there is evidently much scope for development in this branch of surgery. The net expenditure on medical relief under all heads (excluding investments) amounted to Rs. 10,26,752, an increase of Rs. 1,49,604 over the total of 1905. Local and Municipal Funds contributed 38·66 per cent. of the total expenditure during 1906 against 43·61 per cent. in 1905, whilst the Government contribution increased from 48·79 per cent. in 1905 to 52·85 per cent. during the current year. The increase of expenditure is due to the entertainment of additional staff and to the promotion of medical subordinates. One Commissioned Medical Officer, two Civil Assistant Surgeons and one Military Assistant Surgeon were added to their respective cadres. Though the sanctioned establishment of Hospital Assistants was 326 the work had to be conducted with 290, as no more could be obtained. The presence of plague in the Province, the denial of ordinary leave for several months, and the necessity for employing Hospital Assitants upon duties that are exclusively sanitary, in the absence of trained Sanitary Inspectors, tended to increase the strain on this hard-worked class of medical subordinates. One lakh eight thousand three hundred and twenty-four in aud out-patients were treated at Military Police institutions against 101,995 in 1905, whilst a total of 81,296 patients were treated at Railway Hospitals against 74,600 during the previous year. Many plans and estimates were received and scrutinized in connection with Hospitals and Dispensaries. Line plans for improvement of certain existing Hospitals were prepared during tours of the Inspector-General. The necessity for action is chiefly due to original faults of construction in Hospitals built at a time of development of the country when hasty erection was essential for Police or Military purposes, and afterwards transferred for the use of the Civil population.

Miscellaneous.

175. A falling off in the number of patients treated in the Rangoon Leper Asylum is due to a scare resulting from an outbreak of beri-beri. In the Moulmein Leper Asylum there was an increase of 20 in-patients. During the year 1906 funds were placed at the disposal of the Inspector-General for the replacement of the antiquated surgical equipment of operation rooms in the interests of modern aseptic surgery. The new equipment which is being gradually received through the Secretary of State will prove a great boon to the Province and will also directly encourage Medical Officers in their efforts to carry out surgical operations under modern conditions. Electro-therapeutic treatment is practically an unused method in this Province. Representations on this subject have been received by Government

CHAP. VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

sympathetically and it is trusted that the diagnostic and therapeutic value of electricity in the treatment of disease will not be further neglected. Sanction was obtained for the entertainment of two Lady Assistant Surgeons and they have been placed in charge of out-patient dispensaries in Rangoon and in Mandalay. In connection with Nursing the inauguration of the "results-system midwives" on the principle successfully adopted in the Madras Presidency has been advised and 22 local bodies have signified their assent to the scheme. The sanction of Government for the opening of the Medical School was received and action was taken to secure candidates for training as Hospital Assistants at Rangoon. The opening of the Medical School was not effected during the calendar year.

Sanitation.

Expenditure.

176. Out of a total income of nearly 124 lakhs collected for local purposes in the towns and districts of the province over 44 lakhs were spent on sanitation. Municipalities spent Rs. 38,42,214 out of Rs. 74,91,807, Town Funds Rs. 1,25,113 out of Rs. 4,36,202 and District and District Cess Funds Rs. 2,87,938 out of Rs. 44,63,775, the balance of Rs. 1,82,126 being met from Provincial revenues. As might be expected expensive sanitary works and schemes of water-supply are confined to the larger towns. The sums mentioned do not include the cost incurred by private persons on the construction of tanks and the digging of wells, undertaken as works of merit, nor do they take into account the value of the work, in the aggregate considerable, done by villagers themselves under the direction of their headmen for the sanitary improvement of their villages. It is clear that sanitation in Burma is a matter which demands much attention and sanitary reform is a pressing need in every town and district in the Province.

Water-supply.

177. The progress of water-supply schemes in Municipal Towns has been already referred to in paragraph 78 and the action taken in certain smaller towns is mentioned in paragraph 142. Preliminary schemes for improvement of the water-supply were under consideration for Shwebo, Pyinmana, Myingyan, Pakôkku, Minbu, Thayetmyo, Mônywa and Mingin.

Conservancy and drainage.

178. Action taken during the year for the improvement of conservancy and drainage has been referred to in paragraph 78. The Sanitary Commissioner had under consideration the possible extension to other towns of the Shone and Ault pneumatic system of drainage which has been at work in Rangoon for some years. Successful experiments were also carried out in the construction of "filter trench latrines" or "filter pits," a kind of improved cesspit for use in the poorer towns.

Sanitary Board.

179. The Sanitary Board met four times during the year and advised on various matters, the most important of which was the Mandalay water-supply scheme. The Board did not accept the scheme submitted to them and suggested further consideration of other possible schemes.

Vaccination.

180. The expenditure from all sources on vaccination during the 12 months prior to the 1st April 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,27,528 or Rs. 13,064 more than in the preceding year. It was met to the extent of 41·36, 40·90, 15·57 and 2·17 per cent. respectively by the Government, Local Funds, Municipalities and Native States. The average cost for each successful case of vaccination, including the production of vaccine at Meiktila, works out at Re. 0-6-1 against Re. 0-4-9 in the preceding year. The total outturn of work amounted to 411,131 cases (or 39·24 per mille of the census population) against 471,420 cases for the previous year. These figures exhibit a very large deficit of 60,289 cases, which coupled with the expenditure for educating Native Superintendents of Vaccination and improving the equipment of the Meiktila Vaccine Depôt, accounts for the increased cost of successful cases. The falling off is due partly to "Plague Scare" and partly to stricter supervision of the vaccinators' work. The staff employed consisted

of 244 vaccinators, 3 more than in 1905-06, supervised by 32 Native Superintendents compared with 16 in the previous year. At the end of the year, 13 districts still remained without the supervision of a subordinate inspecting officer. The total successful vaccination rate for the whole province in primary cases excluding those classed as "unknown" was 90·65 per cent. and in re-vaccination cases 52·39 per cent. against 90·80 and 53·25 per cent. respectively for 1905-06. Whilst vaccinators reported a success of 90·65 per cent. of primary vaccination, Civil Surgeons on their inspections found the average to be 89·20 (against 90·25 in the previous year) and Native Superintendents of Vaccination 88·28 (against 87·22). By the former agency 60,290 cases were verified and by the latter 56,372. Medical Subordinates performed 18,521 vaccinations against 17,507 in the previous year, with 90·12 per cent. of success in the known primary cases and 59·34 per cent. in re-vaccination. Except in Rangoon, where the Municipality maintains its own depôt, all the vaccine lymph used in the Province was obtained from the Government Depôt at Meiktila. The question of the extent to which the spread of small-pox is due to the practice of inoculation was under consideration and it was decided first to provide complete facilities for inoculation in certain selected districts and thereafter to prohibit inoculation in those districts.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES—

Third Quinquennial Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the years 1902-03 to 1906-07,

Report on the Insein Reformatory School for 1906.

Twelfth issue of Judicial and Administrative Statistics for British India for 1906-07 and preceding years, Tables X (Education), XI (Reformatory Schools), and XII (The Press).

General System of Public Instruction.

(*See* paragraphs 427 to 460 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.)

Education.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

181. The number of colleges and schools of all descriptions during the year closing on the 31st of March 1907 was 21,375. These were attended by 398,598 pupils, of whom 62,749 were girls. Public institutions numbered 6,210 and included 227,128 pupils. Private institutions, which rose to a total of 15,165 with 171,470 pupils, were all of an elementary kind, and out of this total only 88 were girls' schools. In comparison with those of the previous year the figures for public and private institutions show increases of 2 per cent. as regards numbers and 3 per cent. as regards attendance. The percentage of male scholars to the male school-going population now stands at 41·96 as against 40·9 in the previous year: that of female pupils to the female school-going population is now 8·14 as against 7·51 in 1905-06. The total expenditure on education was Rs. 34,87,233, of which Rs. 21,92,782 was 'direct,' a rise of something over 2 lakhs as regards the latter form of expenditure, the increase in 'indirect' charges being trifling. Provincial Funds spent Rs. 4,73,897, or Rs. 1,14,879 more than in the previous year, on institutions managed by Government, and Rs. 72,765 on institutions managed by District or Municipal Boards. In the last item there was a slight decrease. The total amount expended on education from Provincial Funds was 16 lakhs, bearing a percentage to the total expenditure on education of 46·16, an increase of roughly 3 per cent. on the percentage of the previous year. Nearly three lakhs were expended upon buildings and grants for furniture and apparatus. The imperial grants of 4 and 2 lakhs continued, and against them must be set down Rs. 5,51,361 of the total expenditure from Provincial Funds. Fees have risen from 8⅓ to over 9 lakhs and account for 26·21 per cent. of the total expenditure on public instruction.

Primary Education.

182. The term 'primary schools' includes schools teaching English as well as purely vernacular schools. The number of primary public schools increased by 274 with a rise of 7,472 pupils. The most noticeable item in the increase is the multiplication of Government Primary schools, the number of which has risen to 28 as against 9 in 1905-06. Among the 28 are included 5 Anglo-Vernacular institutions, 19 Vernacular and 4 girls' schools. Of the 3 Municipal Primary schools shown last year one has been abolished and one raised to the status of a Secondary school. The number of girls' Primary public schools under private management has risen by 33, entailing an increase of 1,135 in the number of pupils attending such schools. Similar boys' schools have increased by 224, with a rise of 5,625 in attendance. Among the new aided schools must be reckoned 124 "Rs. 500" vernacular schools which were established during the year, and for the building of each of which Government contributed Rs. 500. The number of pupils in primary public schools approaches one-half of the total number under instruction in the Province, and even of those returned as under secondary instruction 43,030 have to be deducted as being in the primary departments. Thus the figures for primary education really stand as follows:—

Pupils in 'public' primary institutions	171,657
In 'private' institutions	171,470
In primary departments of secondary schools	43,030
Total ...	386,157

In other words comparatively few of the population advance beyond the primary stage. Of those attending public primary schools 153,607, or the vast majority, are in the lower primary stage only. On the other hand 2,598 were learning English. The total expenditure upon primary schools was Rs. 6,31,637, of which nearly 3 lakhs came from Provincial Funds, and over 2 lakhs from District Funds. CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

183. Secondary schools increased by 63; out of the total of 569, 461 are vernacular. This total also includes 65 girls' schools. The increase of 63 is distributed thus:— Secondary Education.

High Schools (Boys and Girls)	5
Boys' Middle English schools	3
Boys' Middle Vernacular schools	55
Girls' Middle Vernacular schools	1
Total ...	64
Less Girls' Middle English	1
Total ...	63

The total number of pupils was 52,962, of whom 43,030 were in the primary stage and 21,903 were learning English. The figures all mark increases as compared with those of the previous year. Government secondary schools numbered 20, a rise of 7 on the total of 1905-06: of these 8 are vernacular schools. Municipal school figures have declined by one, owing to the transfer to Government of the Anglo-Vernacular institution at Paungdè. Secondary public schools under private management have increased by 57, with a rise in the number on the rolls of 5,161. In Government High Schools for boys the number on the rolls was lower by 96, though the number of schools was unchanged. In High Schools generally the total of pupils was only 707 higher than last year, although there were 5 more schools. In the Matriculation Examination out of 251 candidates only 105 passed; this however is a very considerable improvement on the results of the previous year. Among the successful candidates there was only one girl. In the High School examination for Europeans 17 girls and 11 boys passed out of 36 and 28 respectively presented. In the Middle English examination 1,974 boys and 330 girls passed out of 4,035 and 531 respectively presented The total expenditure on secondary schools rose to over 13 lakhs, of which a little over 4 came from Provincial Funds, 2¼ roughly from Municipal Funds, something over 1¼ from private sources and 5 lakhs from fees, the balance being met from District Funds.

184. The Government College and the Baptist College, Rangoon, were, as in previous years, the only Colleges taking the University course or part of it. The former had 111 students on the roll, presented 60 for the F.A., and 16 for the B.A. Examinations, and passed 16 and 8 respectively in these tests. The Baptist College had 24 on the roll, and presented 10 for the F.A., of whom three passed. In the Law Class at the Government College there were 19 students, but none took the examination for B.L. Expenditure on these Colleges was Rs. 78,214 or nearly Rs. 9,000 more than in 1905-06. Collegiate Education.

185. The erection of the engine sheds at the Insein Engineering School was continued and the machinery was installed. The construction of the new school building and hostel was begun. The number of students on the roll in the year was 63. Other technical schools exist at Rangoon and Toungoo and the number on the roll in such schools amounted to 193, exclusive of Kindergarten departments which are not properly 'technical' classes. A certain amount of 'technical' instruction, however, is given in ordinary schools. The subjects taught include drawing, cooking, carpentry, lacemaking, sewing, etc. Technical Education.

186. The number of Normal Schools remained the same, but the total of scholars declined by 76. Government institutions, which number five as in the previous year are responsible for more than a fair share of this decrease. Training Schools.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION. Their rolls show only 305 scholars against 366 in 1905-06; while in the seven aided schools there were 237 students against 252 last year. Of the total number 165 were girls. In the training school examination for masters 159 out of 261 passed, 104 in the Upper Grade; in that for mistresses 28 passed out of 36 candidates. The total expenditure was Rs. 98,838 against Rs. 93,843 in the preceding year.

European Education.

187. The number of European schools remained the same, namely, 18; but the attendance of European and Eurasian pupils at schools of all descriptions, which in the previous year showed an increase of 222, declined from 3,559 to 3,406. This diminution took place in the secondary stage; for the attendance of the Primary School rose from 158 to 164, while that of Arts Colleges decreased only by one. In the Normal Schools there were 50 boys as against 37 in the previous year. As for passes 16 candidates were successful in the Matriculation, and 28 in the High School Examination for Europeans; but only 4 passed the F.A. and none the B.A. Examination.

Education of Special Classes.

188. The total number of Mahomedans under instruction fell from 11,305 to 10,965, but it is encouraging to find that the number in attendance at public schools continues to increase, however slowly. There were 6,804 pupils in such schools against 6,680 in the previous year, a gain of 124 pupils. On the other hand in private institutions attendance decreased from 4,625 to 4,161. Only seven Mahomedans attended the Arts College and none of them passed either the B.A. or F.A. examination. Education is rapidly spreading among the Karens. The number of schools increased from 937 to 1,030, and the attendance from 25,753 to 28,580. As in the previous year, one pass was obtained in the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. The large and increasing number of girl pupils is a noticeable feature of Karen education. There were 9,696 girls under instruction as against 8,501 in 1905-06. The recent rapid advance in the education of Shans was well maintained, attendance having more than quadrupled in two years. During the past year the number of Shan private schools rose from 178 to 302 and attendance from 2,325 to 4,228. The number of Talaing schools and pupils is gradually declining, perhaps because the race is becoming more and more Burmanised, and losing its separate nationality. There were 202 schools with 4,113 pupils against 200 schools and 3,929 pupils in the previous year. Of the other indigenous races the Chins and Kachins may be mentioned, though they are but little affected by educational influences. The former have four schools (including a Government Vernacular school at Falam) with a total attendance of 400, 71 of whom are learning English. The latter show a school attendance of only 233, all vernacular. The number of schools specially devoted to the education of Chinese is very small. The Chinese rapidly become assimilated to the Burman population and usually attend the ordinary Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular schools. During the year there were only two Chinese public schools, one Government and the other aided, with a combined attendance of 97. In addition, two private institutions, attended by 90 pupils, appear in the returns, but many others no doubt exist of which no definite information is to hand.

Female Education.

189. The rapid and continuous progress of female education in the province deserves special notice. Attendance at public institutions has shown an average annual increase of 12 per cent. during the last five years; for the year under report the total amounted to 58,665 as against 53,050 of 1905-06. The number of girls in schools of all kinds rose from 57,905 to 62,794 or 8·21 per cent. of the total female school-going population, a percentage which compares very favourably with that of any other province in India. Only a small proportion of these, however, were in Secondary stages: 10,914, the figure given in the annual returns, is somewhat misleading as it includes girls in the primary stages of Secondary schools. The true number of girls in Middle and High Standards is 1,107 as against 1,028 last year. Seventeen out of 36 passed the High School Examination for Europeans, held for the first time this year, 32 out of 42 candidates passed the 8th Standard, one passed the Entrance and one the F.A.

190. The total number of boys remaining in the Insein Reformatory School at the end of December 1906 was 80, of whom 47 were illiterate on admission: 59 out of 60 passed the various standards of the Primary School, while one boy obtained a pass in Standard VII. Thirty-four boys were engaged in canework, carpentry and tinwork, and 30 in tending the Reformatory garden. Seventy-seven punishments were inflicted during the year. The nett expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,570 against Rs. 12,525 in the previous year, an average of Rs. 157 for each boy. CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION. Insein Reformatory School.

Literature and the Press.

191. Publications registered under the Printing Presses and Books Act, 1867, during the calendar year 1906 showed a remarkable increase in number from 140 to 263. Of these works 104 were written in Pâli-Burmese, 89 in Burmese and 29 in Pâli. One hundred and seventy-four were concerned with religious subjects and 20 were educational. Works of fiction decreased from 9 to 2, and there were only two books of poetry (in Burmese) issued during the year. These figures show the growth of Burmese religious literature, and the paucity of works on other subjects. The religious literature deals only with Buddhism. It consists of prayers, sermons, moral and religious instruction, rules of monastic life, and expositions and commentaries on the *Abhidhamma* or metaphysics. These religious books are intended for the edification of Burmese Buddhist and other students of Buddhism, and are neither polemical nor proselytizing in character. They do not concern themselves with the principles and doctrines of other religions, but treat only of the tenets of Buddhism. As regards the works on other subjects, none of them contain political matter, and they are consequently free from seditious thoughts and aspirations. But the dramatic works teem with expressions of the most vulgar and obscene character. They have no literary merit whatever, either as regards style, matter or method, and are of an ephemeral nature. Works on astrology, astronomy and medicine by native authors do not indicate any original research. They are merely reproductions of or compilations from old treatises, and do not contain any important discoveries or theories. From the standpoint of Western knowledge these books cannot be said to have any scientific value. As to poetry, the metre generally employed is called *pyo*, the words being arranged in sets of three feet, each foot containing four syllables, where the fourth syllable of the first foot corresponds in sound to the third syllable of the second foot, and to the second syllable of the third foot. Sometimes this metre is not strictly followed, and variations of it are employed, the form of poetical prose being also adopted. Burmese works of fiction are not generally based on the realities of life as is usually the case with European novels, but are full of ideal extravagances. Publications registered.

192. Seventy-eight printing presses were at work in the Province during the year 1906-07, six more than in the previous year. Thirty-eight newspapers and 49 periodicals were issued from these presses as compared with 37 and 46 in 1905-06. Of the newspapers twenty were published in English and ten in Burmese. Seven daily newspapers were published, four in English, two in Burmese, and one in Chinese. All except one Mandalay English paper appeared in Rangoon. The most important daily papers are the "Rangoon Gazette," published in the morning, and the "Rangoon Times," an evening paper. The circluation of the former was 1,500 and of the latter 3,050 copies. The two Burmese daily papers had a circulation of 800 and 1,000 copies respectively, and the Chinese paper issued 400 copies. A number of newspapers of no great importance are also published in English and Burmese at intervals varying from three times a week to once a month. There is besides a weekly paper in Tamil and a bi-weekly Gujerati paper, as well as several Karen newspapers. A considerable number of the Burmese and Karen newspapers as well as most of the periodicals other than Government publications are of a religious character, and many of them are published by the American Baptist Mission Press, Rangoon. Presses, Newspapers and Periodicals.

Literary Societies

(See paragraphs 487 to 489 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02 and paragraph 282 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1904-05.)

Arts and Sciences.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

193. The Annual Provincial Art Competition was held in February 1907 in Rangoon. The Exhibition is becoming more widely known and specimens for competition were received from Mandalay, Bassein, Thayetmyo and the Shan States as well as from places represented in previous years. Entries for the silverware and wood-carving prizes were more numerous than heretofore; but there were very few specimens of ivory-carving and lacquerwork. The general standard of workmanship was well maintained, and several of the silver betel boxes and bronze statuettes shewed artistic merit of a high order. There was an encouraging advance in the picture and photograph exhibitions both as regards number of exhibits and quality of work displayed.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE:—

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1906-07.

194. The operations of the Archæological Department in Burma received much attention during the year under review. Suggestions for the framing of rules and directions for the administration of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, were received from the Director-General of Archæology, and the Local Government formulated proposals as to the arrangements which appeared to be most suitable, having regard to local conditions and the present state of archæological research in the Province. Briefly summarized, the proposals include the preparation of lists of ancient monuments to be declared by notification to be protected monuments, and the framing of rules under sections 15 and 20 of the Act to regulate the right of access to the Palace at Mandalay, to restrict excavation in certain districts, and to preserve the ownership of Government in all objects discovered in the course of excavation. The advice of the Director-General of Archæology was sought with regard to these proposals. In the meantime the compilation of lists of the monuments in each division in Burma was proceeded with and nearly completed by the end of the year. The administration of pagoda funds and the formation of trusts was also the subject of discussion during the year, but the Local Government did not accept the view of the Superintendent that executive interference by Government officers in these matters was desirable. The number of buildings maintained by Government was increased from 45 to 59, the well-known bell at Mingun in the Sagaing District being included in the category. The preparation of revised district lists of monuments worthy of preservation was still in progress, but had not reached completion by the end of the year. Further advance was made with the architectural survey of Mandalay Palace, and the Superintendent completed an article on Burmese Epigraphy for incorporation in the Journal of Indian Archæology. No new survey or excavation work was undertaken, but a report was prepared on the work done at Pagan in the cold weather of 1905-06. A large number of drawings and photographs were executed by the survey staff. The total expenditure incurred on archæological works during the year 1906-07 amounted to Rs. 1,25,930 as compared with Rs. 72,123 in the previous year. The work of reconstructing the spire of the palace of the Burmese Kings at Mandalay was completed at a total cost of Rs. 65,173, of which Rs. 64,873 were spent during the year. Over thirteen thousand rupees were also expended on the restoration and repair of the Palace buildings and Rs. 6,840 on the construction of a set of models of the buildings. Expenditure amounting to Rs. 28,039 was incurred on various works at Pagan. The cost of the Department, exclusive of expenditure on works, amounted to Rs. 24,183, an increase of nearly Rs. 4,000, due to enhancement of the Superintendent's salary, cost of his Indian tour and special expenditure on photographs.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

(*See* paragraphs 492 and 493 of the Report on the Administration of Burma for the year 1901-02.)

Ecclesiastical.

195. The ecclesiastical record of the year was uneventful. After remaining vacant for fourteen years, owing mainly to the number of chaplains being insufficient for the work to be done, the riverine chaplaincy in Upper Burma was filled. The Chaplain's house at Maymyo was completed in the course of the year. The pay of senior chaplains who have completed five years in that grade was raised to Rs. 1,000 a month. At the same time future entrants into the service were debarred from the grant of exchange compensation allowance, the scale of pay applicable to them was raised accordingly and the special rules relating to privilege leave and furlough were modified, as regards future entrants, so as to assimilate them to the ordinary rules.

Stationery.

196. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied from Indian mills. All supplies of stationery were, as usual, obtained from the Controller of Stationery, Calcutta. The cost of stationery supplied to General Departments and Presses during 1906-07 is Rs. 1,12,425 and Rs. 2,05,521 respectively, against Rs. 1,09,447 and Rs. 1,95,485 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 13,014 in the aggregate.

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